FBIS DAILY REPORT

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CAPUTO COMMENTS ON REAGAN'S AREA PEACE PLAN

PY151540 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1428 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 15 Apr (NA) -- Foreign Minister Dante Caputo today stated that his acceptance of U.S. President Ronald Reagan's peace proposal for Central America "was a prompt, positive response, but did not mean acceptance of all points of the proposal." Caputo stated that the Reagan plan "is somewhat positive because it is a political proposal and, since in every international negotiation one has to seek positive elements to make progress, it seems to us that this has been a step forward."

In telephone remarks made to Radio Mitre from the PRC, Caputo stated that the U.S. President's proposal on the conflict with Nicaragua, which was turned down by the Sandinist government, "is the first one with a political tone," adding that "our position" in this respect is no different from that of other Latin American countries.

CONGRESS DISCUSSES ARMED FORCES BUDGET CUTS

PY111825 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2330 GMT 10 Apr 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Apr (NA) -- Defense Secretary, Horacio Juanarena today revealed that the Argentine Government will give "priority to the functioning of the V Army Corps over the other units in the country," and flatly denied that the current budget draft bill includes allocations for a "hypothetical internal conflict." On the other hand, Jaunarena denied that the executive branch is considering a draft bill on internal security, and defended, against the questioning of Peronists, the defense policy of the Radical Civic Union administration.

Jaunarena made these statements today while he discussed with the Chamber of Deputies Budget and Finance Committee the allocations earmarked for the defense area in the 1985 budget in a closed-door session. Despite the secrecy of the meeting, Peronist Deputies Diego Guelar and Alberto Melon later voiced their dissatisfaction with the exposition and asked that Defense Minister Raul Borras explain in depth the military policy and how it was reflected in the budget. Melon stated that the expositions made by Jaunarena and by Defense Production Secretary Raul Tomas were "very technical," and added that "one cannot discuss the budget for the Armed Forces without a defense law."

For his part, Guelar opposed the official stand in the sense that the current military budget is a "transition" budget, similar to the 1984 budget, and felt that "the degree of progress attained in the Armed Forces reorganization for their adaptation to a democratic state is not clear." Guelar added that "we cannot discuss the budget if there is no defense draft law," and he considered as insufficient Jaunarena's statements that "the Defense Ministry has the approval of the civil power," and that the "joint staff was active" in developing new export markets.

"The closed-door meeting did not deal with any issues that could not have been dealt with in meetings open to the public," Guelar said. However, Radical Deputy Balbino Zubiri, president of the Defense Committee of the Chamber of Deputies, said that the leakage of information on the priority of the V Army Corps over the other units is "irresponsible."

In his few public statements to Congress, Jaunarena said that the allocations for the Armed Forces are the minimum necessary for the proper functioning of a defense system, compatible with the difficult financial situation the country is undergoing."

Guelar said that "we are not ordering cutbacks for their own sake, but we are considering allocations that will permit the proper functioning of the Armed Forces following a determined policy," particularly "after Foreign Minister Dante Caputo has denounced a British naval presence in the Malvinas."

According to Radical and Peronist deputies, Melon had said that "the government lacks a defense policy just as it lacks an economic plan," to which Jaunarena replied by stating the main achievements of Radicalism, which are the greater importance given to the joint activities of the Armed Forces, the "permanent assertion of civil power over military power," and the "extraordinary" budget reduction.

ARMY OFFICERS NOTE 'UNREST' WITHIN ARMED FORCES

PY121850 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1925 GMT 11 Apr 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Apr (NA) -- A statement that was allegedly issued by young Army officers with the rank of lieutenant colonel or lower notes that the Army will experience "a clinical death within a relatively short period of time" in view of "the defeat in the psychopolitical confrontation" against government "sectors" and "Marxist-Leninist groups" over the sequel to the antisubversive struggle and over "the operational and moral ineptitude in confronting any test of force (either at the domestic or international level)."

In an extensive statement published in today's edition of the newspaper LA NUEVA PROVINCIA of Bahia Blanca, the young officers note that through acts of "guilty omission" in the defense of the Army against these alleged attacks, "the Defense Ministry has become a prime example of a ministry for disarmament." They note that the military spirit "is broken by the political failure against Marxist-Leninist subversion and because of the defeat in the South Atlantic," among other factors.

Regarding the alleged "increasing unrest and nonconformity prevailing among Army members," they add that this is due to "the lack of a policy" aimed at safeguarding the cadres from a "vendetta" that they "are being subjected to as a result of the war against subversion" and of the "silence, omission, or groundless information resulting from the political and psychological attacks that the Army is being subjected to." They note that this hypothetical attack is being carried out "through the public and private news media, either through the statements made by legislators, politicians, or government officials, many of whom are members of the ruling party."

Moreover, the statement adds that "time has been lost in an irresponsible manner, 16 months in all. Little or nothing has been done to soften the crisis produced by the drastic budget cuts or to overcome the errors that were made during the South Atlantic war." The statement by the Army officers notes that "as for the development of Marxist-Leninist subversion within the region, Argentina is justly gaining the image of being a gigantic 'sanctuary'". In this regard it adds that "numerous pro-Soviet commandos operating in the country are conducting and planning the establishment of a new Nicaragua or a new Cuba by creating the mythical image of a socialist and democratic government that is essentially promoting the integration of Latin America and that makes the promotion of the principle of nonintervention its raison d'etre."

After noting that "the Armed Forces have been deeply divided since the Malvinas war," the statement adds that "facts have shown that the present civilian authorities have increased rivalries among sectors to take advantage of this situation and to be able to survive, thus repeating absurd committee practices [absurdas practicas comiteriles] and evidencing a supine ignorance of the real situation within the Argentine Armed Forces."

DEFENSE MINISTRY REPORTS 9 APRIL ATTACK

PY130052 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2352 GMT 12 Apr 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Apr (TELAM) -- The Argentine Defense Ministry today reported an attempted raid on a military unit, part of the Campo de Mayo Garrison, carried out by several individuals. The ministry issued a communique stating that at approximately 2245 on 9 April an explosion was heard near the Calvalry School of the Campo de Mayo Garrison. Simultaneously, the sentries realized that two individuals were moving inside the unit's area and ordered them to halt. In response to the order, the intruders opened fire with unknown weapons and upon being repelled, they fled. The communique added that the security personnel who arrived to provide support for the sentries were unable to catch the attackers, and the military authorities immediately reported the case to the appropriate federal judge.

MILITARY JUNTA MEMBERS TO BE TRIED 22 APRIL

PY130019 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2310 GMT 12 Apr 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Apr (NA) -- The Federal Appellate Court has decided that the trial of the members of the first three military juntas for alleged outrages perpetrated during the so-called "antisubversive war" will begin at 1500 on 22 April. The Appellate Court has also issued several instructions regarding the sequence in which the prosecution and defense should submit evidence and made it clear that the defendants' presence will not be compulsory, "except when the nature of some specific proceedings so demands or when the court deems it necessary for whatever circumstance."

ASTIZ TESTIFIES IN FALKLANDS INVESTIGATION

PY131605 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 13 Apr 85 p 9

[Text] (NA) -- Navy Lieutenant Alfredo Astiz and retired Rear Admiral Leopoldo Suarez del Cerro yesterday testified before the Armed Forces Supreme Council in the Malvinas war investigation. But while Suarez del Cerro was reportedly asked 40 questions Astiz only had to answer four.

Astiz, who is also a defendant in the disappearance of Swedish youth Dagmar Hagelin, and Suarez del Cerro, along with 14 other officers, are charged with responsibility for defeat in the Malvinas war with Britain.

Astiz surprised reporters by showing up at the Council building when no prior announcement of his court date was made. Astiz, who commanded the Argentine forces on the South Georgia Islands, was charged in the military's Tattenbach Report with "having surrendered without using all rounds and with two-thirds of his men under him."

A council source said Astiz was asked four questions and was then allowed to leave. But Suarez del Cerro, Armed Forces joint chiefs-of-staff head during the war, reportedly had to answer 40 questions before being allowed to leave. He is charged with "negligence and omission in following orders." The council is expected to conclude the extended testimony period by month-end when former de facto President Leopoldo Galtieri is to be called in.

CNEA CHAIRMAN WANTS URGENT MEETING WITH ALFONSIN

PY151733 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2258 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 14 Apr (NA) -- Alberto Constantini, chairman of the National Atomic Energy Commission (CNEA), has asked for an "urgent" meeting with President Raul Alfonsin this week to discuss the serious budget shortages which this organization is facing. Constantini will ask Aflonsin to finance not only the construction of the Atucha II power plant and the Arroyito heavy water plant as set forth in the 1985 draft budget, but also the rest of CNEA's activities, especially research and development.

The sources admitted the possibility that the current problem could be solved by changing the guidelines of the current budget which allocates $300 million to Atucha II and $120 million to Arroyito, leaving the rest of CNEA's activities without funds. They added that this solution "would require an explicit order from President Alfonsin." If the current draft budget is not amended, projects such as the Pilcaniyeu uranium enrichment plant and the heavy ion accelerator known as Project Tandar. [sentence as received]

KELLY NAMED TO POST OF UNESCO AMBASSADOR

PY121800 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 12 Apr 85 p 11

[Text] (NA) -- Former Foreign Affairs Under Secretary Elsa Kelly has already been named the new Argentine ambassador before the UN Education, Science and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) through a decree signed by Foreign Affairs Minister Dante Caputo, it was reported yesterday by reliable sources. The official announcement will be made within the next few days, the sources said. Ms Kelly is currently on a private visit in the U.S., but it is reported she accepted the post last week when it was offered to her by President Raul Alfonsin.

LORENZO MIGUEL RESIGNS PERONIST PARTY POST

PY051310 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2155 GMT 2 Apr 85

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 2 Apr (NA) -- Lorenzo Mariano Miguel, president of the Metalworkers Union (UOM), confirmed today that he has resigned from the post of second vice president of the Justicialist Party. He also announced that "the national plenum of the 62 Peronist Organizations will probably be convened next week." In an exclusive interview granted to NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS, the secretary general of the 62 Organizations also said that "the national Justicialist movement is dominated by a majority of party congress members, numbering over 350, who have signed before a notary public a request to the party authorities (the president of the National Justicialist Council Bercovich Rodriguez) to call a third congress to deal exclusively with the unity of the party."

SPAIN'S KING JUAN CARLOS, QUEEN SOFIA ARRIVE

PY142140 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2024 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 14 Apr (TELAM) -- The plane carrying Spain's King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia of Bourbon arrived at 1718 at Ezeiza International Airport. From the time the plane entered Argentine airspace it was escorted by two Dagger airplanes of the Argentine Air Force. The king and queen will immediately be taken to the Jorge Newberry Metropolitan Airport on board the Argentine presidential plane Tango-1.

1984 CONGRESSIONAL PERIOD ENDS IN DISORDER

PY132026 Paris AFP in Spanish 1321 GMT 13 Apr 85

[Text] La Paz, 13 Apr (AFP) -- The Bolivian National Congress session that was held last night, marking the end of the 1984 period, ended in a disorderly manner. The Congress will resume work on 6 August, Independence Day, after the general elections scheduled for 14 July. The senators and deputies elected a congressional committee charged with watching over the actions of the executive branch during the congressional recess.

In the Chamber of Deputies, the session was suspended six times for lack of a quorum and resumed the same number of times when several deputies decided to return to the session. During the proceedings, the Chamber of Deputies secretary discovered that one of the deputies in the rear of the Chamber was saying present when the names of the absent deputies were read. When this illegal tactic was discovered, the session was suspended.

PRIVATE BANKS CRITICIZE GOVERNMENT SANCTIONS

PY130016 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1821 GMT 12 Apr 85

[Text] La Paz, 12 Apr (EFE) -- The Bolivian Private Banks Association (ASOBAN) has labeled the measures adopted against the Popular Bank of Peru as arbitrary and has protested what it regards as a "lack of guarantees" for the operations of its members.

The problem of the Popular Bank of Peru, which is undergoing a number of sanctions ordered by the Bolivian state for "irregularities" in its operations, has drawn a strong protest from the private business sector, which feels that the measures are "an attack against the free enterprise system."

The Bolivian Central Bank has frozen the credit and refinancing portfolio of the Peruivan bank and banned it from making foreign trade transactions for its undue retention of more than $1 million and the sale of its fixed assets to another Peruvian enterprise. Thus far, there is no hope of solving the problem with the Popular Bank of Peru because of the unyielding stance of its employees, who are staging a general indefinite strike and preventing the inspection commission from entering the bank, to conduct an audit.

The strikers are asking that the sanctions leveled against the bank be lifted and that a quick solution be found to this problem, which is an attack against their means of living. They also demand respect for the articles of the General Banking Law, which calls for "absolute secrecy" concerning "confidential reports" on the economic status of financial institutions.

BRIEFS

NEW OIL DEPOSIT FOUND -- Engineer Mario Carazas, the Bolivian Government Oil Deposits [YPF] exploration manager, has announced that the Napuco X-5 exploration well has hit a new oil deposit 40 km east of the town of Villamontes, Gran Chaco Province, in Tarija. He said the Napuco X-5 has produced 100 barrels of oil condensate daily and 8 million cubic feet of gas in its first tests. A final report will be released by the end of this month when all the tests are completed. [Text] [La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 12 Apr 85 PY]

REPORTAGE ON PRESIDENT NEVES' DETERIORATING CONDITION

Given 'Several More Days'

PY152036 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1945 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Report by Maria Cida from Sao Paulo Heart Institute live]

[Text] Thank you, Carvalho. No official bulletin on President Tancredo Neves' condition has been issued. At about 0630, the presidency press and dissemination secretariat confirmed through Antonio Brito that the president-elect's [title as heard] condition is very serious.

Brito also reported that no bacteremia has been detected since the last crisis that occurred at about 1100 on 14 April, when the patient underwent temperature and cardiovascular changes. Thus, the president has had no bacteremia since 14 April.

According to a Clinical Hospital technical director, the patient's condition can be considered immutable; in other words, his condition is irreversible and the patient may continue in this condition for several more days. The president is still being fed intravenously and his breathing continues to be assisted. He is using approximately 60 percent of the oxygen provided by the equipment. We can also report that President Tancredo Neves remains under the effects of sedatives. Thus, he cannot speak or communicate.

Tachycardia Confirmed

PY152242 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 2150 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Reports complementary to the medical bulletin read by presidential spokesman Antonio Brito reveal that the latest exams conducted on President Tancredo Neves show that urea level in his blood is 140, the creatinine level is 4.2, his pulse varies from 25 to 28 per minute, and his cardiac rhythm varies between 100 and 120 beats per minute. However, this afternoon he twice suffered tachycardia, making his cardiac frequency reach to 180 [as heard] heartbeats per minute.

The president has been kept permanently sedated since Friday. He has also been receiving ultrafiltration treatments and intravenous feeding. His body temperature is being maintained artificially at 35.5 C to reduce the waste of emergy and to create unfavorable conditions for bacteria reproduction.

Heartbeat Slows

PY160335 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 0304 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Live report from the Sao Paulo Heart Institute by reporter Bahia Filho -- broadcast in progress]

[Text] [Unidentified spokesman] ...On the condition of His Excellency, President of the Republic Tancredo Neves.

His general condition remains stable and within the same conditions as reported in the 1700 medical report. The hypothermical treatment is being maintained, and the patient's body temperature varies between 35.5 C and 36 C.

The president is continuing to receive the blood ultrafiltration treatment in order to compensate for his malfuntioning kidney, and to control his body fluids. His breathing is still being aided by a respirator which is administering less oxygen. His cardio-vascular condition remains stable. His heartbeat was altered for a short time, but the situation was controlled at 2100 and his condition has been stable since then.

The president's general condition is still very serious. Thank you.

[Filho] Good evening, Jornal de Amanha listeners, this was the last medical report issued this evening at 2404 here in Sao Paulo on President Tancredo Neves' condition. We will probably still receive more information on the president's illness tonight.

SARNEY SENDS MESSAGE TO USSR SUPREME SOVIET

PY151450 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 12 Apr 85 p 3

[Text] Brasilia — President Jose Sarney has sent a telegram to the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet to express gratitude for the congratulatory message they sent to President Tancredo Neves on 11 March.

In his message, President Sarney expressed "his firm conviction that Brazilian foreign policy will continue to follow its longstanding guiding principles of preservation of peace and harmonious coexistence among nations."

Sarney also stated that Brazilian-Soviet relations have specific and promising development prospects.

"I am certain that both parties will make efforts in this direction and that the great potential existing between the two countries will be effectively developed to promote our mutual complementary interests and the opening of new fronts for joint actions," Sarney said.

ACTING PRESIDENT SARNEY WILL NOT USE DECREE LAWS

PY151642 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1610 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Report from Brasilia by Carlos Rodrigues]

[Excerpts] From now on all government measures will be submitted to Congress. Acting President Jose Sarney has decided against using decree laws, an instrument which was much overused during the military regime. This information has been disclosed by Planalto spokesman Fernando Cesar Mezquita.

The measures implemented through decree laws go into effect immediately and Congress gets to study them only 2 or 3 months later. This is what happened with the salary policies adopted in recent years.

Fernando Cesar Mezquita also reported that Sarney will visit Sao Paulo on 17 April to visit Tancredo Neves' relatives and to participate in the national meeting of (?writers). Sarney is also scheduled to receive Rio de Janeiro Governor Leonel Brizola this week.

CONGRESS LEADERS SAY SITUATION NORMAL

PY160138 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 15 Apr 85

[From the "Congressional Report"]

[Text] Senate President Jose Fragelli this morning met with Senate board members and bloc leaders. During the meeting, they evaluated the role Congress is playing in view of President Tancredo Neves' condition. Immediately thereafter, Senator Fragelli met with House President Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes, on the same subject. In the two meetings, the leaders concluded that even though the political picture is marked by intense and painful expectation, the institutions are operating normally.

HEALTH MINISTER PREDICTS POLITICAL ADJUSTMENTS

PY160139 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] The current political picture may undergo some adjustments if Jose Sarney has to stay in the post of acting president for an extended period. This remark was made in Brasilia today by Health Minister Carlos Santanna.

[Begin Santanna recording, broadcast in progress] ...But I believe that Sarney will also enjoy the political support from the sectors that have backed Tancredo. [end recording]

The minister canceled the trip he was to make to Rio de Janeiro today because of President Tancredo Neves' condition.

NAVY HEAD VOWS TO RESPECT CONSTITUTION

PY151415 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 12 Apr 85 p 7

[Text] Belem -- During an inspection visit to the 4th Naval District, Navy Chief of Staff Admiral Anthur Ricart da Costa stated yesterday that "Brazil has already achieved political maturity; therefore, events like those that took place in the past will reoccur.

Admiral da Costa said each national sector "is perfectly aware of its role at this juncture" and that "the Navy's action will be strictly in keeping with the Brazilian Constitution."

"Despite its difficulties, Brazil will find its way. To this end, everyone will necessarily have to give a little of himself since, through a joint effort, we will be able to positively overcome this situation. Today we have a clear-cut list of priorities. If we firmly work together, we will overcome these difficulties," Admiral da Costa said.

He added that the Navy is now undertaking the task of replacing and modernizing its fleet. The useful life of a warship ranges from 25 to 30 years. Since many Brazilian ships are older than 30 years, they are now being replaced. After visiting the 4th Naval District, Admiral da Costa will return to Rio this afternoon.

CARABINEROS INVOLVEMENT IN KILLINGS DENIED

PY151924 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Carabineros Director General Cesar Mendoza has categorically denied the rumors of the alleged involvement of the Crime Prevention and Drug Control Department [OS-7] personnel in the murder of three persons. Gen Mendoza spoke briefly with the reporters assigned to Government Palace at the end of a meeting he held there with President Augusto Pinochet. Gen Mendoza himself revealed the reasons for meeting with the head of state.

[Begin recording] I just came to introduce [words indistinct] to the president of the Republic. This was just a formal visit. [end recording]

Asked about the news concerning the investigation of the kidnapping and killing of three persons, Gen Mendoza replied that such a matter is in the hands of special judge [Jose Canova].

CNT ASKS SUPREME COURT TO CONDEMN VIOLENCE

PY120250 Paris AFP in Spanish 2354 GMT 11 Apr 85

[Text] Santiago, 11 Apr (AFP) -- The National Workers Command (CNT) today asked the Supreme Court to condemn the acute state of political violence prevailing in the country. The CNT leadership lodged a written request with Chief Justice Rafael Retamal today while the people were staging demonstrations in defense of life.

The chief justice promised to discuss the request with the other justices. CNT leader Manuel Bustos said this decision was a victory for the unions, which are seeking to obtain the restoration of all individual rights.

Bustos and his colleagues managed to enter the court building despite being harassed by police squads and water cannons deployed in the downtown area of Santiago, in an atmosphere filled with tension.

The CNT called today's peaceful demonstration in the wake of the kidnapping and murder of three leftist opponents of President Augusto Pinochet's military regime.

After delivering the note to Chief Justice Retamal, Bustos said: At this time, anyone of us could end up with his throat slit.

After reviewing the opposition-government confrontation, which this year has claimed 14 lives, civilians and military included, the CNT note says: Chile is being led into a world of horror. The note adds: Acts of violence by the government that have caused deaths, detentions, disappearances, and expulsions have gone unpunished...and these acts are provoking similar reactions not only in the form of acts of sabotage but also terrorism and attacks on individuals.

OPPOSITION LEADERS SIGN STATEMENT DEFENDING LIFE

PY132257 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2032 GMT 12 Apr 85

[By Senen Conejeros]

[Excerpts] Santiago, 12 Apr (EFE) -- Twenty-four hours after the day in support of life, during which 17 people were wounded, leaders of all the Chilean opposition sectors, from Christian Democrats to Marxists, today signed a statement pledging to defend life, human rights, and democracy. To defend life over death and to support freedom and democracy, we are willing to postpone our legitimate aspirations and interests, the opposition leaders stressed in their statement. They added that they want to build a society that will truly and effectively promote and develop freedom and democracy, and that this is an unpostponable task.

The ceremony marking the end of the hunger strike, which several leaders of political organizations opposed to the military regime have been staging since Thursday, 11 April, was held at the Human Rights Commission offices at noon today and ended with the signing of the statement. Among the 30 signatories of the statement, the following stand out: Gabriel Valdez, chairman of the Chilean Christian Democratic Party, and former Senator Andres Zaldivar, chairman of the World Union of Christian Democrats. The following people also signed the statement: Socialists Ricardo Lagos, Carlos Briones, and German Correa; Radicals Enrique Silva Cimma and Patricio Morales; Communists Jose Sanfuentes, Fanny Pollarolo, and Patriocio Hales; and Father Rafael Marotto, spokesman of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left. Union leaders Jose Ruiz de Giorgio and Sergio Troncoso, and social organization leaders Victor Hugo Gac and Irene Frei also adhered to the statement.

For the signatories, more than 11 years of continuous attacks on human dignity have led to the degradation of our society and to the profound political, social, economic, and cultural crisis, and what is most serious, to a moral crisis we cannot overlook. The political leaders added that the innumerable attacks on life, which have shocked each and every Chilean family, have posed for us a moral imperative: promoting the broadest social and political dialogue so that Chileans will be able to meet and respect each other.

The National Workers Command [CNT] has also issued a statement on the results of the day in support of life staged on 11 April. In its statement, the CNT stated that what happened yesterday is not in keeping with our call for peaceful actions due to the tremendous show of police force and the aggressiveness displayed by the government, while we peacefully made a call in defense of life. According to the CNT, the various demonstrations staged yesterday show that the people are ready to resume the popular struggle to demand their trampled rights. The CNT also said that it will continue assuming the role assigned to it, for as long as the rights of the workers and of their families are violated. The CNT statement ended with a call to all social and political sectors to postpone the ideological struggle and to assume, all united, the task of recovering freedom and democracy for Chile and its people.

COURT INJUNCTION FILED FOR 17 DETAINED STUDENTS

PY130134 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 2330 GMT 12 Apr 85

[Excerpts] A petition for a court injunction was filed today before the Santiago Appellate Court on behalf of 17 students detained by Carabineros yesterday in the General Cemetery after the funeral of Santiago University student Oscar Fuentes, who was shot to death on 9 April outside the Amunategui school. Solidarity Vicariate lawyer Rosemarie Bonard has reported that the petition was filed this afternoon before the Santiago Appellate Court.

FOREIGN MINISTER PROTESTS U.S. SATELLITE PLACEMENT

PA120222 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 11 Apr 85

[Text] Bogota -- Colombia has protested to the United States over the placing of a private U.S. firm's satellite in Colombia's geostationary orbit. Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo has stated that the satellite was placed in orbit secretly since the firm did not present a request to the interested nation, in accordance with international legal procedures. The foreign minister said that [words indistinct] corporation [preceding word in English], the U.S. firm, placed the satellite in an orbital space that Colombia claims as its own.

The situation was denounced before the United Nations Legal Subcommittee for Outer Space by Ambassador Ernesto Rodriguez Medina. According to the diplomat, it is the very same orbit where the U.S. firm's satellite has been placed that there are plans to install Colombia's Satcol satellites in the future.

BANKS CONDITION NEW CREDITS TO IMF REPORTS

PA142309 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Text] Bogota -- International banks will condition granting new credits to Colombia to the delivery by the IMF of the first of the quarterly monitoring reports agreed upon by the government's economic team. It has been learned in Washington that this decision was adopted by a consultative group of 14 banks representing 246 international creditors. According to the decision of the international banks, the granting of any loan to Colombia would be delayed for 3 months, totally precluding the signing of a standby agreement. The cautious position of delaying the unfreezing of credits for 3 months coincides substantially with the terms outlined by the government's economic team during a press conference with local and foreign newsmen at Narino Palace.

VENEZUELAN FOREIGN MINISTER CONSALVI ARRIVES

PA131831 Paris AFP in Spanish 1714 GMT 13 Apr 85

[Text] Bogota, 13 Apr (AFP) -- Venezuelan Foreign Minister Simon Alberto Consalvi said upon arriving in Bogota today for talks with his Colombian colleague Augusto Ramirez Ocampo that in the coming weeks Presidents Jaime Lusinchi and Belisario Betancur will meet at the border. Consalvi will hold several talks in the next few hours on Central America and the economic situation between Venezuela and Colombia.

The Venezuelan foreign minister said at Bogota's Eldorado Airport, where he was greeted by his colleague Augusto Ocampo, that although the topic of the delimitation of the surface and underwater areas between the two countries is one of the topics that might be discussed in an open agenda, it is not the basic issue. My visit, the foreign minister explained, is fundamentally to hold a series of talks with my Colombian counterpart Ramirez Ocampo on peace in Central America.

After noting that most of his stay in Bogota will be devoted to the topic of Central America, they will also broach fundamental aspects of bilateral relations between the two countries. "We will discuss with great interest Colombian-Venezuelan matters, particularly those dealing with trade and economic exchange, points that are pending at this moment."

Finally, he announced that in the coming weeks there will be a presidential summit at the border point between the two nations between Lusinchi and Betancur to define aspects of the reactivation of trade and to analyze the declining trade factor in the border region.

GOVERNMENT MINISTER ON NEED TO END FIGHTING

PA142311 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Text] Medellin -- Government Minister Jaime Castro's optimism over the pacification process seems to have abated. He has announced that peace will be more in jeopardy than ever if fighting continues between the Army and the guerrillas. During President Belisario Betancur's visit to Puerto Berrio, the government minister said there will not be a sweeping amnesty for the guerrilla groups. The president has said that the government will grant all possible guarantees to rebels who return to the nation's democratic life.

TROOP REINFORCEMENTS SENT TO CAUCA DEPARTMENT

PA122022 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 10 Apr 85 p 2 A

[By Carlos Campo]

[Text] Popayan -- Reinforcement soldiers have arrived at the "Machangara" Airport today to step up security in Cauca Department. The soldiers of the "Rifles" Battalion of the Tolemaida Military Base arrived aboard seven flights that began landing early this morning. Two Hercules C-130's of the Colombian Air Force transported several companies and their accompanying gear.

Observers at the airport reported that the reinforcements include men from all the branches of service and specialists in many fields. The troops have been assigned to the 3d Brigade command, under Colonel Carlos Escobar Pilonieta.

The units have been temporarily stationed at the headquarters of the "Jose Hilario Lopez" 7th Infantry Battalion, which is near the airfield, awaiting mobilization to the department's critical areas. A military spokesman has said that the troops were sent to Popayan in response to a request by Cauca Department authorities, farm owners, and the general public, who live in a state of uncertainty due to the presence and actions of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia [FARC]. The People's Liberation Army, the National Liberation Army, the "Ricardo Franco" Command, which is a splinter group of the FARC, and the "Quintin Lame" group.

Meanwhile, the Cauca Department governor's office had no reports on the investigations at Caloto, where presumed guerrillas killed policeman Hector Humberto Lasprilla Balante and wounded policeman Jose Antonio Vasquez on the evening of Good Friday.

A source at the government office reported also that the date for a security council meeting to be held here and in which Government Minister Jaime Castro Castro, Defense Minister General Miguel Vega Uribe, and Justice Minister Enrique Parejo Gonzalez will participate, has yet to be set.

Police, Soldiers Killed

PA142003 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Text] Popayan -- The Army and the police have reinforced their troops in this area of the country following several armed confrontations with guerrillas that have resulted in the death of five policemen. The policemen were killed in the municipality of Belalcazar when a police patrol was attacked on its way to the marketplace. Another group of soldiers was attacked by common criminals in Buenaventura while fulfilling their duties in the area of (El Campin).

Meanwhile, a 3d Army Brigade spokesman said that the situation of public order in Pradera, Valle del Cauca, was deteriorating despite the efforts of the military to contain the actions of the subversives. In attacks against 19 April Movement positions, eight soldiers and many rebels have been killed.

FOREIGN DEBT BREAKDOWN BY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

PY111530 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 10 Apr 85 p 11

[Excerpts] The combined balance of the foreign debt contracted by the Public Works and Communications Ministry and the Defense Ministry represents more than 60 percent of the central administration foreign debt.

The breakdown of the central government foreign debt by institutions as of 30 June 1984 sets the Public Works and Communications Ministry at the head of the list, with a balance of $230.1 million, which represents 36.8 percent of the total (some $600 million). The Defense Ministry is second on the list, with $165.3 million, that is, 26.4 percent of the total.

The central administration has transferred 24.16 percent of the contracted foreign debt to decentralized agencies, that is, $150.8 million which is distributed this way: National Development Bank, $41.2 million; Livestock Fund, $28.4 million; Pre-Investment Fund, $4.5 million: Agricultural Extension Credit, $212 million; Paraguayan Housing and Urbanism Institute, $1.7 million; Municipal Development Institute, $1.5 million; National Development Institute, $200,000; and various other agencies, $0.7 million.

The foreign debt balance of the Agriculture and Livestock Ministry amounts to $26.2 million representing 4.2 percent of the total; the Education and Worship Ministry's amounts to $24.0 million, 3.85 percent; the Public Health and Social Welfare Ministry's amounts to $15.7 million, 2.52 percent.

The breakdown of the central administration foreign debt by institutions, besides showing that the foreign loans transferred to the Defense Ministry are for financing the Paraguayan Steelmaking Company, reflects the investments by sector of activity: highway construction takes up 36.8 percent; agriculture and cattle-raising, 4.2 percent; education, 3.85 percent; and public health, 2.52 percent.

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC LEADER CRITICIZES GOVERNMENT

PY122059 Paris AFP in Spanish 1629 GMT 12 Apr 85

[Text] Asuncion, 12 Apr (AFP) -- In an interview with AFP, Alfredo Rojas Leon, president of the unauthorized Christian Democratic Party, today harshly criticized the Paraguayan Government's economic, press censorship, and land distribution policies.

Rojas said that the Paraguayan economy is at a standstill. He added that the government should not socialize the economy but, on the contrary, should privatize all productive sectors to establish a competitive market that can employ the many jobless youths who are affected by the worrisome and growing unemployment problem.

The party president said that the Christian Democratic Party is very concerned about the distribution of property, and that the government should help the people so they can own their own plot. Otherwise, Rojas said, communist infiltration will be easier.

Rojas Leon expressed the belief that there is a quasi-freedom of the press in Paraguay which is plagued with shortcomings. He said that the closure of the newspaper ABC COLOR was a historical mistake, because it proved that freedom of the press is restricted and it discredited the country internationally.

According to Rojas Leon, the Christian Democratic Party believes that the government of President Stroessner is not democratic but authoritarian, and that the elections that are held here are not authentic but preordained.

Regarding the party's legal status, Rojas said the Christian Democratic Party is struggling to be recognized by the Electoral Court. He recalled that the party was founded 2 months before the electoral law was issued, and said he did not know why the party is not recognized because it has never provoked violence or acted against the law.

EXECUTIVE BOARD EXPELS CELAURO FROM LIBERAL PARTY

PY151757 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 13 Apr 85 p 7

[Excerpt] The executive board of the Liberal Party headed by Joaquin A. Burgos has removed Fulvio Hugo Celauro from the party membership list. This decision was reached unanimously at a board meeting on 11 April.

The resolution begins by stating that "in the light of recommendations of the Political Committee which advised that Dr Fulvio Hugo Celauro be expelled from the Liberal Party due to serious irregularities and overt rebellion against legally appointed party authorities, thus harming the image, the prestige and the good name of the Liberal Party..." [as published]

The resolution goes on to say that "the extraordinary national convention held on 18 September 1983 expressly empowered the executive board to implement all approved measures aimed at punishing proven irregularities committed by party members."

The resolution was approved unanimously, thus implementing the recommendations of the Liberal Political Committee.

BRIEFS

FOREIGN RESERVES DECLINE -- Foreign reserves have dropped 41.8 percent over the past 3 years since the Central Bank disbursed and could not replenish $326.8 million during this period. [Excerpt] [Asuncion HOY in Spanish 7 Apr 85 p 8 PY]

1984 INFLATION RATE -- The official inflation rate for 1984 is only 20.27 percent, despite the fact that the general price index increased by 29.8 percent between December 1983 and December 1984. [Excerpt] [Asuncion ULTIMA HORA 19 Mar 85 p 11 PY]

BELAUNDE REFUSES PERCOVICH'S RESIGNATION

PY160404 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0201 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] Lima, 15 Apr (EFE) -- It was reported today that Prime Minister Luis Percovich offered to resign his position in the wake of the results of the general elections held yesterday, but President Fernando Belaunde refused his resignation.

Percovich told a group of journalists that he placed his portfolio at the disposal of President Belaunde, because he thinks that a cabinet of independents should be formed to act as a link with the new government that will take office on 28 July. However, he added, the president said that his departure was not necessary. The prime minister noted that the difficulties the country is facing are of such proportions that 3 months cannot be allowed to go by without establishing close coordination with the new government.

Percovich added that he will meet with the cabinet ministers in order to adopt a joint decision in this regard.

Political circles see Percovich's offer to resign as a consequence of the trouncing the Popular Action [AP] party sustained in the elections. The party only received 5.9 percent of the votes, according to unofficial information.

The party founded by President Belaunde Terry came to power in 1980 with more than 45 percent of the vote. In the latest elections, the social democratic American Popular Revolutionary Alliance [APRA] party, represented by Alan Garcia Perez, according to the unofficial count, received 48.7 percent of the vote, and the candidate for the Marxist United Left coalition, Alfonso Barrantes, received 22.2 percent, thus possibly setting the stage for another electoral confrontation in June.

The alarming loss of its electoral clout has proved a harsh reality for the Popular Action party. It is reported that the members of the AP Political Commission met today with the head of the party, Fernando Belaunde Terry. The members are Senate President and former Prime Minister Manuel Ulloa and First Vice President Fernando Schwalb.

Opposition circles speculate that the AP is on the verge of dissolution, but Percovich has stated that this will not happen, because the AP has assumed power twice in its short existence, in 1963 and 1980 with the election of Fernando Belaunde Terry. Percovich said that AP will return to the electoral scene with new vigor in 1990, expecting to reap dividends from the attrition which the party now coming to power will necessarily experience.

PERCOVICH URGES FORMATION OF TRANSITION GOVERNMENT

PA160406 Paris AFP in English 0401 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] Lima, Apr 16 (AFP) -- Peruvian Premier Luis Percovich suggested Monday the formation of a transition government composed of independents to bridge the transfer of power from outgoing conservative President Fernando Belaunde Terry to his presumed successor, populist Alan Garcia.

In elections on Sunday, Mr Garcia finished far ahead of other contenders with about 48 per cent of the vote, apparently falling short of an absolute majority which would have made him a first-round winner. He is expected to win a run-off against the runner-up in June, and inauguration is set for July 28.

Prime Minister Percovich said that Peru faced so many problems, including a critical economic situation, that urgent matters could not remain in suspense for more than three months. He said he had already offered his resignation to President Belaunde but that it had not been accepted. The cabinet was to meet promptly with a view to submitting a collective resignation.

ALAN GARCIA SPEAKS AFTER ELECTORAL 'VICTORY'

PY151449 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 0445 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Speech given by APRA presidential candidate Alan Garcia Perez at APRA headquarters in Lima -- live]

[Excerpts] [Passage indistinct] My greetings to all citizens, to all Peruvians, even if they did not vote for APRA, because they have given proof of democracy, greatness, maturity, and dignity. By voting today, they have asserted their faith in Peru. [applause]

When greeting all Peruvians without exception, for whomever their ballots have been cast, I therefore greet the civic maturity of our people, and I also greet our adversaries, the other candidates, who have acted with dignity and magnanimity. I repeat that today's victory is not an APRA victory; it is a victory for all of Peru and all Peruvians. [applause]

I call on all citizens, those who voted today for Alan Garcia and APRA and those who voted for other candidates, to convene for a national effort. I call on the immense majority of the nation who want justice and the economic liberation of our country to listen to my appeal. I call on all Peruvians, on all those who want to help so that this great cause, called Peru, can continue along its road, giving priority to the urgent needs of the poor, saving the peasant, returning to the worker and his family the dignity they should have in a democracy, which truly means nourishment, health, and employment.

I have just had a talk with the candidate of the United Left. He made the democratic and chivalrous gesture of coming to my home to greet the victory which this election signifies. [applause] I told him that again we feel that now Victor Raul Haya de la Torre [founder of APRA], the leader who made his life an example of love, belongs to all Peruvians, not only to APRA, and that the theoretician and journalist Mariategui, who was the promoter of change, also belongs to all Peruvians. [applause]

I also greet the other candidates. There is no meanness in my soul and no hatred, and I recognize that the patrimony of Peru also belongs to other Peruvians. A newsman has asked me about my message for those who voted for the government parties and who have been defeated. I replied: The people who cast their votes for other parties have not been defeated. The defeat is of the government, which followed an intransigent, insensitive, and antinational policy. [applause]

The workers and the middle class who cast their ballots for the other side are also Peruvians. They have not been defeated. I confirm my appeal and my commitment to all: We need the worker in order to reopen the factories and revive our economy; we need the peasant, now abandoned but who will become the promoter tomorrow; we need the youth who has the future and hope in his hands and in whom I put all my trust for tomorrow; we need the mother who knows how to defend her child; we need all the people. We are a national cause, we are not only the APRA. We do not have a sectarian or closed conviction. We call on all Peruvians who, together with us, want a nationalist, democratic, and popular government. [applause]

I recognize in Fernando Belaunde a president who has kept his promise to the Peruvian people. And now the Peruvian people will change the government, the economy, and the policies, and they will consolidate their democracy. [applause]

I greet all Peru. In the name of Haya de la Torre, APRA and myself, I thank you for the great distinction given us today by Peru. I do not know if our roads will part in the next few days, but I certainly want to tell you that we will not draw back in our hope of transforming the country, or in our appeal to the men and women of Peru, or in our faith to make Peru a greater country.

I do not know yet if we will go to a second electoral round. [applause]

BARRANTES CONGRATULATES GARCIA FOR 'VICTORY'

PY151512 Lima Radio Victoria Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Dr Alfonso Barrantes Lingan, candidate for the United Left, went to the home of Alan Garcia in Miraflores to congratulate him after his victory. The two had a cordial 30-minute talk in the library of Alan Garcia's home. After the meeting, the candidates showed themselves at the window of the house and were greeted by the sympathizers who had gathered in the street. Dr Barrantes posed for photographers together with some APRA leaders and with Mrs Garcia.

APRA REPORTEDLY WINS MAJORITY OF SEATS IN CONGRESS

PY151735 Paris AFP in Spanish 1643 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Lima, 15 Apr (AFP) -- According to today's latest unofficial results, (APRA), which won the Peruvian general elections on 14 April, will have an absolute majority in the Congress, according to the percentage of ballots, 48.85 percent, that it obtained throughout the country.

Out of the 60 Senate seats in question, APRA will obtain 32, and it will have 107 out of the 180 deputy seats, if the almost uniform forecasts are confirmed.

Alfonso Barrantes' United Left, which holds second place with 23.5 percent, will have 16 senators and will share with the other parties the remaining 72 [figure as received] deputy seats whose distribution has not yet been determined.

Luis Bedoya's Democratic Convergence will have eight senators, and Javier Alva's Popular Action (government party) will have four senators. The other minor parties will not be represented in the Senate.

PRESIDENT SANGUINETTI WARNS AGAINST REVANCHISM

PY151617 Paris AFP in Spanish 2139 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Text] Montevideo, 14 Apr (AFP) -- Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti today stated that no one outside the state should try to plunge the nation into revanchism so as to destroy its institutions and warned that the nation is involved in an uphill struggle to strengthen democracy.

Sanguinetti addressed a ceremony honoring the memory of two policemen, a military officer, and a deputy minister who were killed by a terrorist commando group on 14 April 1972. The president said that these killings were cowardly and were perpetrated by a mindless force then on the loose.

However, political circles saw in the chief executive's words a warning to sectors of the Armed Forces which, according to these circles, hold frequent meetings to evaluate the national status quo and have yet to foresake the guidelines and methodology of the prior military regime.

Speaking in the presence of Army, Navy and Air Force commanders, Sanguinetti said that no one has the right to make messianic interpretations of the will of the people and said: There is nothing above the law, there is nothing above our institutions, there is nothing above the people's vote.

The president admitted that democracy could at times appear to be a fragile, but history has taught us that throughout the centuries it has been the only form capable of providing man with the means to live in dignity.

Sanguinetti said that regimes which at one point or another appear to have full power one day take a hard fall, adding that when the Nazi and fascist hordes were defeated 40 years ago, this was accomplished mainly because of immense popular support.

Sanguinetti stated that the deaths of the persons whose memory was being honored today should not give rise to a feeling of revanchism and will not be used to distort the meaning of his mandate. No one outside the state will plunge the country into revanchism to destroy civilian, police or military institutions, Sanguinetti added.

The president added that in Uruguay there is no more room for revanchism and added that this country is firmly engaged in an uphill struggle to strengthen democracy, hoping to achieve this by the end of the century.

Sanguinetti acknowledged that Uruguayans are separated by extreme rifts which must be closed because we cannot go on living with our minds frozen in the memory of past struggles.

I am certain that if we do not allow impatience or revenge to gain ground, if we continue strengthening our democratic convictions, Uruguay will once again become the fairest and most tolerant country in this hemisphere.

Sanguinetti concluded his address by saying that the current regime could be threatened just as freedom is always being threatened, but victory is ours because democracy may have eclipses but never sunsets.

EFE ON SANGUINETTI'S HANDLING OF MILITARY, UNIONS

PY151253 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0916 GMT 15 Apr 85

[By Alberto Pepe Leira]

[Text] Montevideo, 15 Apr (EFE) -- The excessive caution that Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti has been showing toward the military, which has managed to keep most of the privileges bestowed on them during the dictatorship, has begun to cause problems for the government.

The relationship between the government and labor unions, especially those of public employees, has become tense and demands for salary hikes are threatening to paralyze the country.

At the end of the week the Uruguayan president addressed the nation to describe a dramatic picture of the nation's financial status inherited from the dictatorship, emphasizing that he received a country with a great deficit. Everyone agreed with Sanguinetti but his problems got worse when the opposition launched a campaign to prove the state's enormous expenses are the result of the huge military budget and that the administration has done nothing to reduce this budget in the first month and a half of its rule.

Only the Interior Ministry has ordered the police to cut down on the use of government-supplied fuel for private vehicles as a savings measure. However, this example has not been followed by the Defense Ministry, whose spokesman has said that the issue is under study at this point.

Meanwhile, the opposition is demanding that the privilege of free fuel for numerous military officers be eliminated. To make things worse, the price of fuel went up 30 percent on 14 April and this is bound to accelerate the soaring inflation of recent months.

The leaders of the country's main workers organization, the Inter-Union Workers Plenum, have stated that the hikes which the government has ordered for utility and fuel rates are canceling the salary increases obtained in the past few weeks through severe labor pressure, and that the workers are being forced to shoulder the burden of the state deficit, instead of the government taking away the privileges of the military.

The government is fully aware that the military gets the largest chunk of the nation's budget, but Sanguinetti seems to be determined not to irritate the Armed Forces with drastic measures.

During the past few days Sanguinetti has been working nonstop to find some means to increase the wages of civil servants, but this is impossible without changing the legal structure left behind by the military. Sanguinetti offered the state workers an average raise of 20 percent, but the way the government wants to distribute the raise is 30 percent for the lowest-salaried personnel and 5 percent for the highest. This can be done among civil servants but not in the Armed Forces where a private, second class, must receive, according to a law issued by the dictatorship, a salary equivalent to the bottom grade of the civil servant scale.

The government is not against granting increases to the troops but it does not want the officers to get huge pay hikes. This will be impossible to accomplish without changing the laws of the dictatorship because a general is supposed to make 10 times the salary of a second class private, which means that for each peso the lowest-ranking soldiers get, the generals will get 10, the colonels 9, the lieutenant colonels 8, and so on.

The only way to solve this problem is to amend the military laws, but a high-ranking government spokesman has told EFE that the political status quo is not conducive to this change.

Meanwhile, no means have been found to reach an agreement with state civil servants and strikes appear imminent. Health workers struck last week and have announced that another strike could be staged this week. The courts have been paralyzed for a week now and the strike by paper industry workers continues after the police forcibly dislodged the workers who were occupying the factories, thus irritating large labor sectors.

WORKERS SAY GOVERNMENT SIDING WITH EMPLOYERS

PY151430 Paris AFP in Spanish 2134 GMT 13 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Montevideo, 13 Apr (AFP) -- According to labor sources, the Uruguayan workers organization has virtually gone on alert after the government ordered the police to dislodge striking workers from a dozen factories.

The Inter-Union Workers Plenum and the National Confederation of Workers (PIT-CNT) has declared that the measure was unconstitutional and illegal and said that the government was siding with the employers. According to the sources, the PIT-CNT is witnessing with the greatest concern the deployment of forces to disrupt the democratic play of social relations.

In a speech he made 48 hours ago, Uruguayan President Julio Sanguinetti warned the workers that they cannot take undue advantage of the right to strike, pointing out that no matter how many salary hikes are ordered, unless production increases soon, the purchasing power of wages will again drop.

Meanwhile, PIT-CNT leader Thelman Borges has said that the executive branch must understand that strikes take place because the people can endure no more, and he guaranteed that there is a great deal more hunger than there are strikes.

The dislodgement of workers who were occupying rubber, paper and food processing plants led to tension in relations between government and labor unions, tension which prompted the PIT-CNT to go into permanent session.

FOREIGN MINISTER IGLESIAS MAKES TRIP TO SPAIN

For Madrid coverage of the visit to Spain by Foreign Affairs Minister Enrique Iglesias, including his meetings with Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran, see the Spain section of the 15 April Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

BELIZE

MINISTER ON ARREST OF OFFICIALS ON DRUG CHARGES

PA160127 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0059 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] Belmopan, 15 Apr (REUTER) -- The Belizean Government announced today that it is preparing to arrest several magistrates, policemen, and public officials on drug-related charges. This follows the arrest this month of a former minister in Miami.

Carl Thompson, minister of home affairs and establishment, stated in a radio broadcast that the arrests are imminent. Thompson said that several ministers of the former government of Belize, which lost the general elections in December, had organized an important drug ring in this Central American country. Elijio "Joe" Briceno, who was minister of communications and energy of the defeated center-leftist government, was arrested on 8 April in Miami and accused of conspiring to export 5,000 lb of marijuana to the United States monthly. The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration said that Belize was the fourth major supplier of marijuana to the United States last year, after Mexico, Colombia, and Jamaica. The new right-wing government of Prime Minister Manuel Esquivel has been pressured by the United States to repress the illegal trafficking of drugs.

EL SALVADOR

DETAILS OF DUARTE-SHLAUDEMAN MEETING RELEASED

PA131904 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1600 GMT 12 Apr 85

[Text] Government House has released some parts of the conversation held by President Jose Napoleon Duarte and Foreign Minister Jorge Eduardo Tenorio with the U.S. envoy for Central American affairs, Harry Shlaudeman, during his recent visit to El Salvador.

Government House reported that the meeting was held on the evening of Tuesday, 9 April, and that Shlaudeman was accompanied by U.S. Ambassador Thomas R. Pickering. The report adds, as we reported at the time, that the meeting was to discuss U.S. President Ronald Reagan's 4 April proposal to the Nicaraguan Government. According to the Government House report, this proposal is of utmost importance in achieving peace in Central America.

The report adds that the Salvadoran president voiced his concern to President Reagan's envoy over the atmosphere of hostilities prevailing in the area and the urgent need to find a solution to the problems afflicting the countries in our area. The Salvadoran president also said he was very pleased with the efforts of the Contadora Group whose main goal is peace in Central America. President Duarte emphasized to the U.S. envoy, the Government House report added, that the Central American countries should strongly commit themselves not to encourage any subversive movements or destabilization actions in the area, respecting the territory and sovereignty of the neighboring countries.

2. [Numbers as heard] Efforts must be made to stop the arms race in the area and to stop the purchase of more weapons for the armies of the countries in our area.

3. The gradual and scheduled withdrawal from Central America of all foreign advisers, technicians, and military experts must be assured.

4. Efficient mechanisms of verification must be established in both the administrative and financial aspects in order to follow through the efficient enforcement of the above mentioned withdrawal.

Those were the four [as heard] basic points that President Jose Napoleon Duarte presented last Tuesday night to U.S. President Ronald Reagan's envoy Harry Shlaudeman who visited Central America. President Duarte concluded the meeting by saying that the process of [words indistinct] and internal reconciliation of each individual country are not included in the nature and goals of the Contadora Group and that internal peace and reconciliation are very urgent and important affairs.

President Duarte expressed his conviction that dialogue and negotiations should prevail over hostilities as instruments and methods for solving internal conflicts in the countries of our area. This is a report issued in recent hours by the Government House concerning the meeting held by President Jose Napoleon Duarte accompanied by Foreign Minister Jorge Eduardo Tenorio with President Ronald Reagan's envoy Harry Shlaudeman who was accompanied by U.S. Ambassador Thomas R. Pickering.

FDR'S CALLES QUESTIONS DUARTE REJECTION OF TALKS

PA152133 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1800 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Report by Renan Quezada]

[Text] This morning we received a phone call from San Jose, Costa Rica, from Eduardo Calles, vice president of the FDR, who wants to make a statement for Radio Cadena YSKL listeners.

[Begin recording] Good morning. Our revolutionary salute to the Salvadoran people. We want to comment on our recent proposal to Jose Napoleon Duarte to continue talks between our front, the FMLN-FDR, and his government on 21 April in Morazan Department. Shortly before the elections Duarte announced that the talks would continue after the elections, regardless of their outcome. We do not want to comment on the opportunistic nature that is now apparent in this announcement. Instead we want to comment on the fact that he is currently issuing evasive and inconsistent replies to your concrete proposal.

It is worth noting that Duarte cannot reject the third meeting. He knows that the search for a negotiated and just solution is a demand deeply felt by our people. Moreover, we want to state that Duarte should not forget that our people will not allow the dialogue to be misused for tactical purposes and that, in sum, the dialogue begun in La Palma was a people's victory. We repeat, Duarte has rejected our proposal. He claims to be concerned that our proposal in untimely and states that he does not want to lend himself to a show. He states that we have proposed Morazan Department for tactical purposes and that the meeting cannot take place on 21 April. We have seen some cables here stating that this decision was made because of a vaccination campaign. The use of this excuse is quite surprising in light of the importance of the vaccination campaign. Of course foremost is the search for a solution to the crisis being experienced by our people.

As far as we know engineer Duarte will not be involved in operational or administrative aspects of this campaign. Since he believes that our campaign is...[rephrases] since he believes that our proposal is untimely and tactical in nature, we ask ourselves: What do you call what he did to our fronts before the United Nations? Is engineer Duarte not aware of the great demagogical show he mounted on that occasion? He abused the goodwill and peaceful inclination of the peoples represented at that forum.

On that occasion he proposed La Palma, an area in conflict and dispute, as the site.

We ask again: Why does he now reject Morazan as the site of talks? We maintain that our proposal is a serious and consistent one. We propose Morazan because the FMLN can better contribute to security aspects there. In addition, we are proposing a meeting of the highest leadership of our front's Directorate with engineer Duarte.

I repeat, the argument used to reject our meeting date is inconsistent. We see in this an attempt to delay the dialogue. We would like the people to reflect on something: We must not allow more delays in the dialogue. We believe that engineer Duarte has run out of excuses to postpone the dialogue, to continue evading the search for a political solution. Our people must demand this. In the end, it was the pressure of the people, their demand for a just peace that forced the Duarte administration to begin a dialogue. However, I repeat, at the beginning this dialogue was carried out in a spectacular fashion and with much maneuvering. The FMLN-FDR advocates the aspirations of the people; their aspirations for peace. However, we advocate a just peace. We insist that this means solving a great number of problems generated by the conflict we are now experiencing. We reiterate our determination to continue struggling to ensure that the dialogue will not become a tactical issue. [end recording]

RADIO FARABUNDO MARTI COMMENTS ON REAGAN PROPOSAL

PA112018 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 2300 GMT 10 Apr 85

[Station commentary: "Mr Reagan's Dirty Blackmail"]

[Text] A few days ago U.S. President Ronald Reagan made a peace proposal to Nicaragua through which he seeks to have the Nicaraguan revolutionary government recognize the same revolutionaries who, a little over 6 months ago, were sowing terror and death among the Nicaraguan people and who were defeated on 19 July 1979 by the Nicaraguan people and their vanguard, the FSLN. The level of the Reagan administration's blackmail is such that if the Nicaraguan Government rejects this peace plan Mr Reagan threatens to continue giving millions of dollars to the Somozists in order for them to continue aggression against the Nicaraguan people from Honduran and Costa Rican territories.

The Nicaraguan Government, which was legitimately elected by the Nicaraguan people during the elections held on 4 November 1984, has already flatly rejected the gringo blackmail. Undoubtedly, the Nicaraguan people are defeating the aggression which the United States is carrying out through the contras and the CIA agents. However, this Yankee aggression is a permanent threat to peace in the region and a way to subject the Central American peoples to the policy and interests of the U.S. imperialists.

Each one of the Latin American presidents who have visited the United States during the past few months has expressed their rejection of the interventionist gringo policy in Latin America and, more concretely, in the Central American area to the U.S. President. The presidents of democratic Latin American countries condemn and repudiate the Yankee warmongering policy. The Contadora Group efforts are now backed by Argentina and other Latin American countries which seek to pacify the region through political solutions. However, through their warmongering plans, the Yankees have made great efforts to neutralize the Contadora Group's role and to continue their militaristic policy in the region.

The Nicaraguan people have a legitimate right to defend their democratic, revolutionary process.

The Nicaraguan people have the legitimate right to defend their sovereignty and [word indistinct] self-determination.

Nicaragua's rejection of gringo blackmail is an act of dignity, honor, and sovereignty which has the support of the Latin American peoples and which will undoubtedly have the support of the democratic governments in the region. The Contadora Group meeting, which is scheduled to begin on 11 April, will also be a demonstration of such support because the Contadora Group's efforts also mean efforts to build democracy in the region and to reject the meddling of foreign powers in each Central American country. No one can force a country to talk with its former scourges, and even less so if those scourges have already been defeated by the people. The Reagan administration must suspend its aggression against the Nicaraguan people just as it must suspend the escalation of its meddling in our homeland. The increase in gringo meddling in the area only serves to augment the suffering of our peoples and to postpone the time when each one of the Central American countries will achieve freedom and independence.

Our peoples have already decided to rid themselves of the chains imposed by U.S. imperialism. Nicaragua has already defeated this power and is building its freedom. The struggle in El Salvador is drawing closer to a victory by the people and the rest of the countries in the region are heading toward the path to freedom and democracy. Imperialism will not be able to keep our nations from being free and democratic.

FMLN RADIO LABELS DUARTE AS 'U.S. PUPPET'

PA132252 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti to El Salvador in Spanish 2300 GMT 12 Apr 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] After the Reagan administration gave him a majority of deputies in the Legislative Assembly, through the action of the genocidal high command and the submission of oligarchic parties, Duarte is now getting ready to go wag his tail when he receives orders and millions of dollars. Of course, being a puppet is also costly. Engineer Duarte's servile policy also faces a great number of problems that he cannot solve with military measures alone. This is worsened by the fact that his government has lost the initiative militarily and is now facing one defeat after another.

Duarte faces popular pressure demanding better living and working conditions; demanding the clarification of and trials for crimes committed against the people over the past 5 years; demanding freedom. These popular demands are reflected in the deepening of the political struggle for vindication. During his first 6 months of government the working class carried out 69 work stoppages and strikes, involving more than 225,000 workers and employees. In the first 3 months of this year alone, 30 work stoppages and strikes were carried out.

The peasants' demand for the land is more valid today than ever, when the land reform Duarte tried to begin has definitely been canceled. In addition, the peasant sector's expectations are now even lower because the Duarte regime refuses to approve the cooperative law. In reply, Duarte has increased repression, militarized work centers, closed work centers, and granted significant economic concessions to the oligarchy.

Duarte's five trips to the United States during his first 5 months in office demonstrate the complete dependence of his administration on Washington's plans and the president of the Republic's role as a puppet in keeping with U.S. interests and policy.

Within this framework there is nothing to indicate that Duarte's government is seeking a solution to the Salvadoran conflict. Quite the contrary; the social, political, and economic conditions of our people are worsening. This, in turn, will strengthen popular struggle. It is clear that the implementation of a military option will not solve the conflict. The only solution to the Salvadoran conflict is a political one. Therefore, with this in mind, the trips by engineer Duarte to the United States, which to date have served only to ensure a continuation of the war policy (?ordered) by Reagan, do not bring to our people any hope of solving their problems. These visits to the United States constitute a threat to our homeland and to aspirations for peace and justice of the Salvadoran people.

Engineer Duarte's question -- What do I do now, Mr Reagan? -- will be answered by the Salvadoran people by defeating the war policy and military solution that the Duarte puppet Army is implementing and deepening. This is what the workers' struggle and the victorious battles of FMLN military units are accomplishing. The suspension of a third round of talks, engineer Duarte's trips to the White House, and visits of gringo envoys such as the reactionary Mrs Kirkpatrick to our homeland do not constitute peace signs for our people. Peace, justice, and freedom will be achieved by the Salvadoran people through a political solution and the struggle carried out by its vanguard, the FMLN. No to the regime's war policy. Yes to a political solution through dialogue and negotiation.

GUATEMALA

PARTIES ASK MEJIA TO MOVE UP ELECTIONS DATE

PA152026 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1925 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Guatemala City, 15 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- The main political parties of Guatemala have asked the military government to advance the date of the general elections which had originally been planned for October. The request was made by top leaders of the ultrarightist National Liberation Movement (MLN), the Union of the National Center (UCN), and the Christian Democratic Party (PDC) during a meeting with Head of State General Oscar Mejia Victores this weekend.

MLN presidential candidate Mario Sandoval Alarcon stated today that there is a consensus among the political parties and the head of state to move up the elections.

Guatemalan Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade, member of the cabinet, told ACAN-EFE today that Mejia Victores will call for elections 3 days after the new constitution is promulgated.

Ramiro de Leon Carpio, president of the National Constituent Assembly and of the UCN, announced today that the new constitution will be promulgated on 8 May. The first round of elections was initially set for 24 October and the second for 27 November.

The PDC publicly asked that the two rounds be moved to 21 July and 18 August and that the new government assume office on 15 September, the day Guatemala gained its independence from Spain. The PDC alleges that the elections must be moved "because as long as we have a de facto government no economic solutions can be implemented."

Mario Sandoval Alarcon and Hector Aragon Quinonez, (MLN); Jorge Carpio Nicolle and Ramiro de Leon, (UCN); and Rodolfo Paiz Andrade and Ricardo Gomez, (PDC), attended the meeting with the head of state.

Vinicio Cerezo of the PDC, Mario Sandoval Alarcon of the MLN, Jorge Carpio Nicolle of the UCN, and Jorge Serrano Elias of the Democratic Party of National Cooperation are the candidates running for president so far. The elections will mark the return of civilians to power after 15 uninterrupted years of military government.

CREATION OF EMERGENCY COMMISSION SUGGESTED

PA161303 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 2350 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Roberto Carpio Nicole, alternate vice president of the National Constituent Assembly, said today that Guatemala will overcome its political and economic situation once a legitimate government is installed and the true situation of the country is studied. Meanwhile it is urgent that a national emergency commission be created to study the country's situation. According to Carpio Nicole, this commission would be formed by members of the National Constituent Assembly, production forces, and the executive branch. They would study the country's economic situation, its local and international commitments, and suggest policies to recover credibility with the international creditors.

Carpio Nicole added that for the state to recover its credibility, it is vitally important to make sure that the government decreases its expenditures by spending only what is absolutely necessary. As part of this plan, it is necessary to advance the elections which will permit the installation of a democratic regime. The general elections should be held during July and August so that the new regime can be installed no later than 15 September. Carpio Nicole concluded that for this to take place, the National Constituent Assembly will present the new constitution by 15 May so elections can be held as soon as possible.

MEJIA, COMMANDERS DISCUSS ECONOMIC SITUATION

PA160449 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0300 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] It has been officially announced that yesterday, Saturday, the Guatemalan head of state discussed the national situation at length with the commanders of the Armed Forces, who reiterated their support for last Friday's decision by the head of state to suspend the tax package and other fiscal measures, and dismiss the minister of finance, Leonardo Figueroa Villate. Meanwhile, the new minister of finance, Armando Gonzalez Campo, who assumed the position on Friday afternoon, spent the weekend meeting with former officials of the ministry and members of the private sector, and trying to familiarize himself with the functions of that sector of the administration.

PANAMA'S NORIEGA VISITS TO LAY CORNERSTONE

PA112340 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 11 Apr 85 p 2

[Text] Panamanian General Manuel Antonio Noriega is concerned about regional instability. The four horsemen of the apocalypse are riding through Central America, Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the National Defense Forces of Panama, said on arriving in Guatemala. Gen Noriega was received at 1230 at a Guatemalan Air Force base by General Rodolfo Lobos Zamora, chief of the Army General Staff.

In an interview with EL GRAFICO, Gen Noriega said that his visit to Guatemala is in response to an invitation made by General Mejia Victores during his recent visit to Panama. It was also in response to an invitation by Guatemala City to lay the first stone of the Panama Square which will be built on Las Americas Avenue. The ranking military commander of Panama said he deplores the instability affecting Central American countries. He said that the four horsemen of the apocalypse are riding through the area, leaving behind them death, terror, hunger, and destruction. He was also greeted on his arrival in Guatemala by Colonel Hector Gonzalez Salaverria, former ambassador to Panama who is currently chief of the Army Press and Information Department, the Panamanian ambassador to Guatemala, and Panamanian military attaches.

HONDURAS

FURTHER REPORTAGE, COMMENT ON 'CRISIS'

President Praises Armed Forces

PA151732 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Speech by President Roberto Suazo Cordova during the ceremony on the occasion of the 54th anniversary of the Honduran Air Force, held in Tegucigalpa, 14 April -- recorded]

[Excerpt] At this moment Honduras is experiencing a very difficult situation on the domestic as well as international scene. This situation can only be overcome by the joint effort and shared determination of all Hondurans. We are going through a test of fire along our determined walk down the path of democratic consolidation. Democracy is the system of life and government, freely chosen by the votes of Honduran people. Those who abuse their authority in a democratic regime, or those who use their authority to attempt, for personal reasons, to change the theoretical and pragmatic conception of democracy are those who do not love their homeland and who prefer despotism that denies the dignity of man and all freedoms.

Honduras, because of its strategic location on the isthmus that links North and South America, has a very important responsibility in the quest for adequate solutions to the conflicts in Central America. Aware of this responsibility, the government I head, mandated by the people, has done, and will continue to do all in its power to resolve the national problems and to contribute to resolve, through peaceful mechanisms of dialogue and understanding, the international controversies such as the one currently rocking Central America. However, this is not a task that can be improvised. It is a task of the rulers and the ruled, it is a task for those who have public duties and those who exercise their rights of citizenship. Within this context, the Armed Forces of our country is fulfilling its historical duty for the welfare of our people, the prestige of our Republic, and for the security of the Honduran state. The Armed Forces constitute an effective guarantee for the interests of the people of the democratic regime I proudly lead. The honest soldier who upholds and defends the Constitution is the soldier who honors the slogan: loyalty, honor, and sacrifice.

Military Chief on Moderation

PA151712 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Speech by General Walter Lopez Reyes, Armed Forces commander in chief, during the ceremony on the occasion of the 54th anniversary of the Honduran Air Force, 14 April, in Tegucigalpa -- recorded]

[Excerpts] Today, the country demands a greater sacrifice, calm, and moderation from all the branches of the Armed Forces.

These are moments of political, institutional, social, and economic crises, moments when negative factors have lent themselves to destroy the foundations of democracy. They are preaching the anxieties of a revolution but with ideals that are different from those of the patriotic rebels of our history who forged the country's nationalism and sovereignty. Today's rebels preach destruction and hate, as if with this we could build the large, sovereign, and free homeland we all desire. Quite the contrary. They are inspred by ideologies imported from countries that have nothing in common with our characteristics and which will never be in accordance with our democratic and pluralistic system. They only attempt to destroy our republicanism and enslave us to a totalitarian system that destroys all the rights of man.

Our people will never allow these revolutionaries to destroy our patriotic values that represent our nationality. Honduras needs men who will save it from its big problem and wants a future of peace, work, progress, and freedom.

May these words allow the Honduran people to once again trust its Armed Forces. We are determined to continue protecting our domestic peace and order, our democratic system, our dignity and sovereignty. I have the moral authority to state that the Honduran Armed Forces' determination continues firm. It continues to uphold its moral and civic principles. When a soldier wears his uniform with honor and dignity, he forgets himself and thinks only and exclusively of the interests of his people.

Interview With Lopez Reyes

PA151829 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Interview with Genral Walter Lopez Reyes, Armed Forces commander in chief, by Voz de Honduras correspondent Jose Danilo (Izaguirre); date or place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [(Izaguirre)] How does Walter Lopez Reyes, commander in chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, feel about recent political developments in the country?

[Lopez] The Armed Forces wants to continue with the vindication process [revindicador]. We basically want to be professionals. We want to serve our country. However, as you have stated, we are experiencing a domestic political situation that is of concern to all Hondurans, and we also are concerned about the situation. However, we will definitely obey the Constitution and do all we can to make our political leaders and other politicians reinstate order. We believe that there are many ways to uphold the system which all Hondurans have longed for. The Armed Forces cannot go into detail about the subject because our views may be misinterpreted. Yet we can definitely and categorically say that our people, the true Honduran people, can be assured that the Armed Forces will maintain order at any cost.

[(Izaguirre)] Gen Lopez Reyes, recently a politician made the serious charge that President Roberto Suazo Cordova was involved, along with high-ranking officers, in selling national currency on the black market for U.S. dollars. How do you feel about that?

[Lopez] We have [word indistinct] some of these charges. Fortunately we have learned to be patient and remain calm. Democracy permits this kind of freedom. However, through legal means we will show that the charge is completely false. I want to say, especially to the people, that since 31 March of last year, we have stated that we are not interested in this or any other kind of money. No one can buy my officers' or my acquiescence for dastardly political purposes.

I repeat, next week we will try to provide accurate information to interested persons to the effect that we are not receiving this kind of money.

[(Izaguirre)] As we understand it, the National Congress will send a letter to Gen Lopez Reyes asking the Armed Forces' compliance with the law relating to the takeover of some institutions. How do you feel about that?

[Lopez] We obey orders in the manner established in the Constitution. We have a general commander who is the president of the Republic. To us, he represents the will of the people, the system we have decided to uphold. Thus we are concerned about contradictions that are occurring. Everyone wants to give us orders. We will definitely continue obeying the Constitution.

[(Izaguirre)] In everyday language, General, can we tell the Honduran people that there will not be a coup, that there is no cause for alarm?

[Lopez] No. Let me repeat, no one would benefit from a coup. We know that there are groups and persons that one way or another want to make the Armed Forces stage a coup. We have higher interests in this country. We devote ourselves to providing geopolitical analysis for the National Security Council and to other matters which are of decisive importance to us. This is so not only because elections in this country are approaching, and a new president will be elected, but also because we are working to solve the border problem with El Salvador. We must also realize that the Central American region is becoming conflictive and we must maintain peace at home. It is to our advantage. It would be of no use to use to have the best equipment and the best possible Army if there is no internal peace. That is what concerns us the most.

[(Izaguirre)] Since you are concerned that everyone wants to give you orders, how do you feel about the internal elections in the country?

[Lopez] That is one of the issues on which we have an opinion. We do not express our views because local politics are outside our purview. But what the church, labor unions, workers, peasants, and the Armed Forces have said is definitely true. When we talk about politicians, we are in fact talking about those leaders who view politics as a way to pull people in a certain direction. Instead, there should be a higher goal. In other words, persons who should be leading, are doing -- (?I must say) sincerely -- quite the opposite. The church has made serious warnings about this, warnings which I feel are aimed at specific political leaders. However, as a disciplined organization, all we can do is give greater assurances to our people so that these politicians do not lead us to disaster. There is talk about elections, and we must pin our hopes on these elections. We know that the elections will give us the person who in one way or another will guide our country's future. Still, when that person, the president and our highest leader, is the subject of harsh criticism, the critical remarks must be tempered, because he not only deserves our respect -- as he represents the Honduran nation -- but also because, as is the case all over the world, it is impossible for one person to handle the entire country without the people's help. We want opposition, but that opposition must point to errors or shortcomings and at the same time present alternatives and solutions. As commander in chief of the Armed Forces, I have found through experience that I cannot lead the Armed Forces without the cooperation of the heads of the other branches, the other units. In sum, we are an example of what political organizations can achieve in this country. The person on top is not the only one who gives orders. All of us are in charge because of our sole commitment to take our country out of backwardness and famine. That is what the people strive for.

[(Izaguirre)] From your statement, can one deduce that national consensus is the way out of this problem?

[Lopez] We are in fact one people. Whenever we offer alternatives and opinions on possible solutions, we are acting as one person. There may be several solutions, but the will of the people is what must be done.

[(Izaguirre)] How do you feel about the complaints people make through their representatives about the parallel leadership situation in this country?

[Lopez] I am not sure if this is a coincidence or premeditated action by one group. This is why we are asking for calm. The people see disorganization and misrepresentation. It has been said facetiously that everything is double in Honduras, that we are at a parity with the U.S. dollar. There are two things, this and that, and this is what we must eliminate. We are projecting a distorted image of our country. We have made great strides so that the military institution honorably represents Honduras. However, in the country's interior things are said and done differently. We must avoid this. Now I must address you, the news media. You play a very important role, especially now that we are undergoing such an uncertain period. You must tell politicians who are part of this situation that they should guide their words and speeches to give a greater stimulus to the programs and projects that can be carried out; that they should represent the people if they win the elections; and that once they get to the top they should carry out such programs.

[(Izaguirre)] Is there internal stability within the Armed Forces?

[Lopez] We are more stable than ever because we are aware of the danger. We are aware of what is happening outside our borders. Thus, disunity would be disastrous. I want to take advantage of this opportunity to say, as I have to my comrades, that if I am a hindrance within the Armed Forces I will resign my post. This would serve as an example so that others might follow. We cannot be disunited during times of unrest, when foreign forces can take control over the country. I also want to repeat my statement on the anniversary of the Public Security Forces. When liberty is lost, we realize its price. Liberty is priceless. In that respect we must strive even harder to preserve democracy, liberty, and tranquillity in our...

[(Izaguirre), interrupting] Is your statement addressed to any particular politician in our country? I mean your offer to resign, General.

[Lopez] That would be a solution. However, it depends on which political level we are talking about. There is much talk about this within political organizations. However, as I have stated, we have our views on what should be done but cannot express them because we are professionals, and we think of ourselves as having a new mentality, a new frame of mind, which keeps us from getting involved in local politics.

[(Izaguirre)] Do you guarantee that the Suazo Cordova government will last until November?

[Lopez] We guarantee that it will last until November.

[(Izaguirre)] General, how do you view the differences between the state powers? Do you think that these differences will be settled soon?

[Lopez] Definitely. We cannot continue with such instability and uncertainty. The government is making great strides to solve a number of our country's problems, especially in the economic field.

Instability or domestic unrest could hinder these efforts. Therefore, the best thing would be for this situation to end in the shortest time possible.

[Izaguirre] General, do you propose a dialogue between the executive and legislative branches?

[Lopez] As a subordinate, I cannot tell my superiors in the three state branches which comprise the democratic system what to do. We believe that these persons are intelligent enough to solve the country's political problems.

Suazo Vetoes Amendments

PA160021 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 15 Apr 85 p 3

[By Noe Leiva]

[Excerpts] Tegucigalpa -- President Roberto Suazo Cordova announced yesterday, with apparent support from top military authorities, that he delivered to Congress on Friday the veto of the amendments to the electoral law. He asserted that he has the full support of the Armed Forces to enforce respect for this decision in the case of any threat.

During a press conference in which he appeared in the company of Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica, Suazo Cordova said that the amendments to the electoral law "are extemporaneous" and accused the promoters of the amendments of having joined forces with the extreme left wing to lead the country "toward chaos, anarchy, and subversion."

The press conference was held yesterday at the Officers Club of the Honduran Air Force (FAH) with newsmen who had gone there to celebrate the 54th anniversary of foundation of this branch of the Armed Forces. "The crisis worries me because it is my duty to safeguard peace and calm" he said at the beginning of the press conference, during which he also asked that "these situations be solved through dialogue." However, he added, all of his efforts have crashed against an intransigent" [quotation mark as published] attitude on the part of the president of the legislative branch, lawyer Efrain Bu Giron.

He insisted that "purely political matters involving personal ambitions of a presidential nature" led the president of Congress "to violate the Constitution" in view of the proximity of the Liberal Party (PLH) convention.

Regarding the amendments to the electoral law, he said that "they are extemporaneous at this juncture," and then asked: "Why didn't they make them before?" I am not against modifications. But Jose Azcona [dissident PLH deputy] said that the primary elections could be held in June or July, almost 3 months ahead of schedule. That would practically provoke a confrontation within the National Party and the PLH," he added. He stated that the amendments would not cause any major problems to the National Innovation Party and the Honduran Christian Democratic Party, arguing that their meetings are small.

Moreover, he described Bu Giron's attitude of not attending the reception in honor of U.S. Vice President George Bush and Colombian President Belisario Betancur and yesterday's events at the FAH as "arrogant." "This was a discourtesy to the Armed Forces themselves, which are being supported by the entire Honduran people," he noted.

Returning to the matter of the veto, Suazo charged that there are [word indistinct] of the extreme right wing and [word indistinct] of the extreme left wing who are part of this alliance [word indistinct] the PLH. And what the Congress is doing is of benefit to Nicaragua.

"However, when someone tries to wreck the ship of state, let there be no doubt that that President Suazo Cordova, with the support of the Armed Forces, will lead it toward safe port on 24 November. The veto is a constitutional power which the National Constituent Assembly has granted me. I can exercise it. Nobody can force me [word indistinct] do so, particularly when [word indistinct] an article of the Constitution."

GEN LOPEZ REPORTS NICARAGUAN SOLDIERS RELEASED

PA160303 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 15 Apr 85 p 50

[Text] The chief of the Armed Forces has reported that the 17 Nicaraguan soldiers captured on 2 April in the vicinity of El Espino customs post by the Honduran Army have been turned over to Nicaraguan authorities. He did not specify the date because the Honduran Foreign Secretariat has not yet sent an official communique to the military high command on this official action. General Lopez Reyes said that the turnover of the Sandinists followed the release last week of 75 Honduran sailors who had been detained in Managua jails for several months. It is not yet known if the seven vehicles and Soviet rifles of the Sandinist military convoy that entered Honduran territory during Holy week have been turned over to the Managua regime, because the Honduran Foreign Secretariat has not yet reported on that.

NICARAGUA

DANIEL ORTEGA WILLING TO MAKE CONCESSIONS TO U.S.

PA152251 Paris AFP in Spanish 2203 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Managua, 15 Apr (AFP) -- Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega has declared that his government is willing to make concessions on "sensitive issues" if the U.S. Congress rejects the $14-million support requested for the counterrevolutionary groups. Ortega made the announcement this afternoon after meeting with U.S. congressmen, who he allowed to travel to Punta Huete Military Base, 20 km north of Managua. A landing strip is being built in Punta Huete which, according to spokesman of the Reagan administration, will be used for Soviet-made MIG combat planes.

U.S. CONGRESSMEN MEET WITH ORTEGA, D'ESCOTO

FL152034 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1955 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Managua, 15 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- A delegation of U.S. congressmen, members of the House Intelligence Committee, has met with Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega and Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto. The party of four Republican congressmen and five high-level congressional officials arrived yesterday to meet with representatives of Nicaraguan political, economic, and military sectors. This is the fifth U.S. congressional delegation to visit Nicaragua in less than 10 days in preparation for the debate in the United States on extending aid to the Nicaraguan counterrevolution.

The mission includes Codel Stomp, Richard Harry, Bob Livingston, and Dave McCardy.

The first group of congressmen to arrive after Ortega announced his government's rejection of the Reagan plan was led by Democratic Edward Markey and the second group was led by Ike Skelton of the same party. Skelton was accompanied by General Richard D. Dena, deputy director of the National Guard, Brigadier General Charles M. Keifer, and William D. McGill, a State Department escort.

Ortega Views Visits

PA152356 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2306 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Our Companero Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, president of the Republic, today authorized the visit of U.S. congressmen, who are members of the Intelligence Committee, to Nicaraguan military bases. Here are the details from a press conference granted by the president of the Republic, in which he discussed current important and controversial issues:

[Begin recording] [Ortega] We have been meeting with U.S. representatives a few days before voting is to take place in the U.S. Congress on the issue of the $14 million. (?This is) a political struggle.

We reiterate our stand to reject President Reagan's ultimatum in the so-called peace proposal; we insist on Nicaragua's determination to establish good relations with the United States, to normalize relations with the United States. Of course, for this to happen U.S. aggression must end and a serious dialogue between the United States and Nicaragua must be established.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Ortega] Well, we issued a special call to the U.S. Congress, but the Congress has not yet named a corresponding commission. Many congressmen have been arriving here; they are all requesting some kind of visit. We told them that we are awaiting a reply from the Congress. However, [words indistinct] I made an exception, taking into consideration that this is a delegation which includes Republican and Democratic congressmen from the Intelligence Committee [words indistinct] therefore, a Democrat and a Republican visit [words indistinct].

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Ortega] [Words indistinct]

[Reporter] And what will they be able to see?

[Ortega] Well, at least they will be able to check directly whether what Nicaragua is doing in this sense is offensive in nature; whether this threatens U.S. security. They are actually defensive in nature.

[Reporter] Do you think that the visit of so many congressional delegations will help Nicaragua win a battle in Congress?

[Ortega] Well, I believe that this battle is not only Nicaragua's but also the U.S. people's and its policy. Should the $14 million be rejected, the United States will benefit the most. [end recording]

ORTEGA, OTHERS DISCUSS U.S. AID TO CONTRAS

PA160240 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0135 GMT 16 Apr 85

["Face the People" program with President Daniel Ortega Saavedra, Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado, and Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto Brockman at the headquarters of the Jose Benito Escobar Sandinist Central Organization of Workers in Managua -- live]

[Excerpts] [Ortega] Good evening, Companeros. Approximately 1 hour ago, at 1845 Managua time, which I think is 1745 in the United States, the U.S. President held a meeting that we could call a face the traitors meeting. He met with the traitors to eat, drink, and talk with them in order to continue the battle that is being waged in the U.S. Congress. The U.S. President wants the approval of $14 million, which is to be added to the $110 million that has already been invested in murder and other crimes against the Nicaraguan people.

The U.S. President held his face the traitors meeting. I do not know what other label we could give Calero, Cruz, Robelo and all those people who were born in Nicaragua, but who have betrayed Nicaragua by serving as instruments to cause bloodshed in Nicaragua.

The U.S. President proceeded to stage his well-known show, his well-known act, when he appeared before U.S. television cameras 1 hour ago. He introduced an individual, whom he described as a peasant, saying that the Sandinists set fire to his home in the mountains and that he fled to Honduras. Afterward, the President presented a girl who gave him a photograph of children in rags and of very poor people, living in very bad conditions, who are Nicaraguan refugees in Honduras. These tactics were used by the U.S. President as a basis for demanding that Congress approve his $14 million to bring democracy and peace to Nicaragua.

When Reagan introduced the peasant, he naturally forgot to say that this peasant, who he was using as a tool, was probably a victim of his criminal policy toward Nicaragua because there would not be peasant settlements in other countries and there would not be resettlement if it was not for the aggression by the United States. If there is resettlement, it is due to U.S. aggression.

We could show the American people not only the refugees in Honduras who are victims of the U.S. policy of aggression, but we could also point to the thousands of Nicaraguans who have been direct victims of that terrorist policy. We could show them the mutilated children. We could show them the mothers who have seen their sons murdered by the mercenary forces or their daughters murdered, abused, and raped by the mercenary forces. We could show them all of this.

The war that the U.S. Government is waging against Nicaragua is a truly irrational war, so irrational that the President of a world power like the United States has become so irrationally committed to his criminal actions against Nicaragua that he is devoting himself night and day to his campaign against Nicaragua in an attempt to convince the American people that Nicaragua is a threat to the Central American peoples and to the United States itself, and to convince the American people that there is no democracy in Nicaragua, that human rights are violated here, and that the church is persecuted here. Tonight, the U.S. President went so far as to state in his exhortations, in his proposal... [rephrases] Tonight the U.S. President warned the Congress that to reject his proposal of aid to the anti-Sandinist rebels would be a rejection of all of the moderation forces, from the church to the Contadora Group countries, that have called for freedom and democracy in Nicaragua.

This is how the U.S. President is manipulating his alleged support from the church and the Contadora Group for his policy of aggression against Nicaragua.

Here, we have a different type of meeting, a meeting that is completely different from the meeting that President Reagan held tonight, that he is still holding at this time because the speech was to be followed by a reception. I believe it was arranged that those wishing only to attend the cocktail party had to pay $250, while those wishing to attend the dinner had to pay $500. Those attending both events and a later briefing [preceding word in English] to be given by the counterrevolutionaries had to pay $1,000. There were even those who would pay $5,000. All of this is to raise funds for the mercenary forces.

Therefore, they are currently holding their meeting and we are holding our meeting here. Naturally, there is a difference between these two meetings because that one is a face the traitors meeting and this is a Face the People meeting. [applause]

The Nicaraguan people are gathered here. Representatives of the Nicaraguan people and of the various sectors of the Nicaraguan people are gathered here. Those who are over there [in the United States] represent the former Somozist guardsmen who, in turn, are instruments of the U.S. policy against Nicaragua.

We were saying that a veritable battle is under way for the $14 million. The fact is that the $14 million is not the problem because President Reagan has found ways to send more than $14 million to the mercenary forces via other channels. The problem is a political one and the U.S. President said this today. He, the Congress, and the entire world are aware that this is a political problem because the vote will be either for or against a certain political policy, either for the aggressive, interventionist, criminal, terrorist policy that disregards international law, the policy that the U.S. President has been pursuing, or for a policy of respect for international law, the people's sovereignty, self-determination of peoples, and the negotiated, peaceful solution of problems. That is what is at stake. To vote in favor of the $14 million is to vote for more murdered children and youths in Nicaragua, more destruction of child centers, more destruction of machinery, schools, and health centers. It would mean more sorrow, division, destruction, and sacrifice in the Nicaraguan family and more harm to the Nicaraguan economy. This is what voting in favor of or supporting the $14 million would mean.

In contrast, to vote against the $14 million is to vote for the possibility of a peaceful solution to these problems, for the U.S. President to think about Congress' attitude, which reflects U.S. public opinion, and for him to decide to seek a peaceful, negotiated solution. That is why this topic has been so widely debated. That is also why Nicaragua is making its efforts on behalf of peace. This is the reason for the U.S. President's arrogant and not very intelligent maneuver of making a so-called peace proposal a few days ago. When we read that peace proposal, we realized that it was not a peace proposal at all but an ultimatum that the U.S. President was issuing to Nicaragua. We emphatically rejected that peace proposal. In other words, we rejected the ultimatum and we so informed the Contadora Group countries, which represent a Latin America effort to achieve peace.

We rejected that ultimatum because...[rephrases] What is President Reagan proposing to us in his so-called peace proposal? He is proposing that we get on our knees so we can be stabbed, so that we can be killed. Under these circumstances, we prefer to die standing up, never on our knees. [prolonged applause, shouting of slogans]

In the past weeks, there has been a veritable mobilization of Latin American public opinion.

Latin American and European rulers have been concerned over this situation. The United States has taken a threatening position. The USSR also made a pronouncement calling for a peaceful position. In addition, we have been visited by a large number of U.S. congressmen from both the Democratic and the Republican Parties. We have talked with them at length about all these problems. We believe that they have honestly come to Nicaragua to learn the truth in order to be better able to take a position in the United States. It is important to state that a large number of the congressmen with whom we have spoken have a real desire to resolve these problems and normalize relations between the United States and Nicaragua.

The fact is that it is completely clear that we are the target of an aggressive attitude on the part of the U.S. Government. At this time, we can see no interest on the part of the U.S. Government in finding a political, negotiated solution. We see no such interest. Instead, all of these tactics -- the so-called peace proposal, the repeated statements by President Reagan, and now his campaign, his dinners and speeches with the traitors -- are designed to manipulate the U.S. public, the great majority of whom, until recently, have been opposed to the U.S. Government's policy in Nicaragua. The latest poll in the United States indicated that 71 percent were opposed to this policy and 16 percent were in favor of it. Thus, President Reagan has launched an effort to try to impress the public and to tell the public that he has the support of Latin America, the Contadora Group countries, and the church, and that it is therefore inconsistent for some congressmen to oppose the approval of the $14 million. That is the battle that is being waged in the United States, a battle between the truth, the authenticity of this revolution, and the lies, deceit, cheating, and extortion represented by the message that President Reagan is delivering in the United States.

Meanwhile, it is true that we have innumerable problems, but our fighting morale remains high. This is most important, the Nicaraguan people's fighting morale and their firmness. At the worst moments and in the face of the greatest adversity, they have the courage and steadfastness to resist and defeat the Yankee intervention, the same courage and steadfastness that Sandino showed under more difficult conditions. At this time, the Nicaraguan people are in a much more favorable position to defeat a Yankee intervention if it should take place. In his so-called peace proposal, President Reagan speaks of a cease-fire with the mercenaries. Of course he wants a cease-fire with the mercenary forces because the fighting people -- the peasants, workers, and students -- are whipping the mercenary forces, pushing them into Honduras and defeating them. We are defeating President Reagan's mercenary forces. Thus, he wants a reprieve for his mercenary forces because they have no future as long as there are still people in Nicaragua. As long as there are people here in Nicaragua, those mercenary forces will be defeated. [prolonged applause, shouting of slogans]

[Torres] Good evening, Mr President. I bring you a greeting from the workers and employees of Atmospheric Products, COPA. My name is Alfredo Torres Rodriguez. I am secretary general of the Marvin Torres Union. Commander, what is your opinion about an article published by Commander Doris Tijerino entitled "Fighting Corruption?" It was published in the 30 March BARRICADA's issue. Thank you.

[Moderator] Companero Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado will respond.

[Ramirez] In addition to the article by Commander Tijerino you have probably learned through the newspapers how in Region 4 alone, the Sandinist police and the investigative organization of the revolutionary government have taken several individuals to court for crimes against the people's economy.

This is a problem which the revolutionary government is bent on confronting, particularly at this time of defending our homeland. We are bent on confronting it because we cannot continue to allow a minority in which we have placed our trust to violate that trust, the trust that the people have placed in them, and to seek personal profits not only against the interests of the people but against their own co-workers, leading public opinion to believe that we have in Nicaragua generalized corruption among those handling state property and resources and some economic resources. Therefore, we will confront this situation with full vigor as required.

We still have a problem which needs a solution. We have many laws which are not responsive to the current situation. Quite often the police send these criminals to the courts, and in the courts one of these lawyers from the past gets them set free. We have to acknowledge this. Many times these individuals are sent before a jury, and the jury also sets them free. Therefore, this is not a simple struggle. This struggle must reach the conscience of everybody -- those who judge, those who have to return a verdict, and those who must know that it is necessary to apply a strong hand in these cases to prevent corruption from spreading.

We wish to announce to you that the revolutionary government is going to organize a commission for struggle against corruption, of which the Presidency of the Republic will be in charge, and which will be headed by the justice minister. It will involve all police corps, the state security corps, the Comptroller General's Office, the unions, which must exert strict vigilance over these situations, as well as other people's organizations, which must also become involved in this form of defense of our economy in order to enable us to take the initiative and tackle this situation so as to put an end to it once and for all. This struggle against corruption must also be a national crusade, like the one we are waging to defeat the mercenaries and to defend our homeland. [applause]

[Unidentified reporter] Good evening, Commander Daniel Ortega and companeros presiding over this discussion. I have a question for Companero Miguel D'Escoto from the Union of Nicaraguan Journalists. We all know that there is a so-called peace plan. All workers already know about it; we also know what it actually is and what its objectives are. The entire labor movement is here, and we would like Companero Miguel D'Escoto Brockman to brief us on the status of foreign relations and international opinion regarding that plan.

[D'Escoto] I believe that what the entire world thinks about this is obvious, and I need not speak now at length on different opinions voiced in all continents repudiating this latest hoax of those who are actually trying to undermine and destroy international juridical order and replace it with the arrogant and prepotent principle that might makes it right for large countries to impose their will on smaller ones because they are economically and militarily stronger.

The struggle that Nicaragua is leading now in the world is not only a struggle to defend the inalienable right of Nicaragua to rule according to what we Nicaraguans think is in keeping with their interests and rights. Nicarague is also leading a struggle to defend all countries of the so-called Third World, the small countries. We seek respect for our sovereignty and the sovereign will of the people in those countries.

Hypocritically, those who want to gain support for continued meddling in Nicaragua are trying to pretend that they are defenders of democracy. However, it is evident that there can be no democracy while there is intervention, because democracy is a government of the people and for the people; a government in which the only will to be followed is that of the citizens themselves, not the will of a foreign power.

We know that the democracy that the U.S. Government has always wanted for small countries such as Nicaragua is its total and absolute subordination and submission to it, because it is economically and militarily powerful. I would say that Nicaragua is viewed now by the world as a great moral power defending not only the right of our people but also the right of the people of small countries to decide their own fate and to be respected by those who are so arrogantly trying to make us yield.

There is no doubt about this. I confirmed this recently when I had the opportunity to accompany Daniel Ortega to President Sanguinetti's inauguration in Uruguay and later to the inauguration in Brazil. These were very special opportunities to learn directly the feelings of the people of Uruguay and Brazil.

I would say that this heroic struggle of our people is being closely followed by all peoples of the world and by their governments; we have a very strong moral and political backing at the international level. Thank you very much. [applause]

HUMBERTO ORTEGA HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

PA132033 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1740 GMT 13 Apr 85

[Press conference by Defense Minister Commander of the Revolution Humberto Ortega Saavedra with Luis Cabrera and unidentified reporters at Managua's Augusto Cesar Sandino International Airport -- live]

[Text] [Luis Cabrera] We are now approaching the site where Commander of the Revolution Humbero Ortega Saavedra will hold a press conference. Commander Ortega has been asked the reasons for General Noriega's [commander in chief of Panama Defense Forces] visit to Nicaragua. Let's listen to what he has to say.

[Ortega] Gen Noriega's visit to Nicaragua shows the Latin American leaders' concern -- in this case, Gen Noriega from Panama -- over the political instability in the region. The visit has allowed us to inform Gen Noriega of the various opinions and positions held by the Nicaraguan Government and at the same time to listen to his concerns and ideas on this situation. We believe that the visit has been fruitful because it has helped to consolidate criteria in the search for the most sensible solution to the crisis, one that will end once and for all this instability and especially the bloodshed the region and particularly Nicaragua is experiencing as a result of the aggressive policy that the current U.S. Administration advocates.

[Reporter] Could you tell us more about Roger Patterson, the U.S. national who was killed in an action [word indistinct] the contras?

[Ortega] At this time the Army is in contact with the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry to further analyze reports on this incident.

In the next few hours or days the Foreign Ministry will report to the domestic and foreign press more details on the death of this American mercenary who was found during a patrol by units of the Sandinist People's Army in the northern Nicaraguan mountains. You will be able to learn more about this through the Foreign Ministry. However, I can say that the incident proves once again that the irresponsible policy that the current U.S. Administration is advancing is increasing the toll of American lives that have been lost in this conflict.

[Reporter] Do you know whether he was active in the U.S. military or retired?

[Ortega] This is what is being investigated and will be reported to you later. However, certain clues and his identification tag show that he was a member of the U.S. Armed Forces. The identification tag is the kind used to identify soldiers who die in situations like this one.

[Reporter] Commander Ortega, The U.S. Administration usually accuses Nicaragua of intervention in other countries. What is the defense minister's interpretation of this policy of direct U.S. intervention in Nicaragua?

[Ortega] The same as we have said before. Facts show who is intervening in whose domestic affairs. This incident, which will be more fully reported later, shows that it is they who are intervening in the region. It is the daily aggression that we live with, especially by military powers, which proves most tangibly that the United States is maintaining a policy of military intervention against Nicaragua.

[Reporter] What is the balance of the military situation, Commander?

[Ortega] We recently spoke about this at the ceremony creating new military units. However, we can say that the military plans implemented since December have been successful. We are confident that we will continue dealing blows to the enemy, which has already sustained a strategic defeat. This does not mean, however, that we will lower our guard or even our efforts. On the contrary, we should now double all military efforts -- including those of the Battalions for Unconventional Warfare, militias, and reserves, actually all the people's forces -- to take advantage of our victories and to further weaken the mercenary forces until they are reduced to a situation that will allow us to completely eradicate them from Nicaraguan territory in the future.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] rebel positions have not been identified this year. What is the situation with regard to attacks against your forces?

[Ortega] Well, you see, as a result of our military plans and the defeats the rebels have sustained, they are currently weak; they avoid direct combat with us and limit themselves to actions by small groups against the civilian population and economic targets to further weaken our already weak economy, which is suffering the effects of the economic crisis that is affecting countries like ours. Nonetheless, they have regrouped in Honduras, in the border areas between Nicaragua and Honduras, and at their bases in Honduras and Costa Rica. They are still strong enough and have enough people to reenter Nicaragua at various spots. However, every time they attempt this they suffer new defeats. The time will come when these waves of incursions will gradually decline and weaken. We are now developing border units such as the (Laureano Mariana) Unit, which we recently created, that will allow us to maneuver better from inside our territory toward the borders to completely encircle them and prevent them from returning to these sanctuaries.

This way we will be able to exterminate them. However, we must point out that this will not happen overnight. They still have financial and logistical support in Honduras and Costa Rica which allows them, even after the failure of their plans to have by now taken large portions of the territory, including the cities like Esteli, Jinotega, and Matagalpa, to continue coming and going from Costa Rica and Honduras, dealing blows to our economy and civilian targets, staging some clashes against our Army. But they will not be able to sustain this indefinitely, especially if we continue to implement all our military plans for this year.

[Reporter] Several days ago Costa Rica received military supplies, including 6,000 rifles. What is the defense minister's view on this stockpiling by the Costa Rican Government?

[Ortega] I believe it is best not to comment on this. Each country has a sovereign right to acquire the arms it considers necessary. The important thing is that these weapons not be used to attack or harm other countries. They are entitled, just as we are, to obtain the weapons they want.

[Reporter] Commander, will the members of the U.S. House of Representatives' Intelligence Committee be taken to visit any military installation or area as part of the itinerary you have prepared for them?

[Ortega] The president of the Republic and the Foreign Ministry are in charge of the itinerary. We will follow their guidelines.

RAMIREZ ADVOCATES CONTADORA, MANZANILLO TALKS

PA130020 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1845 GMT 12 Apr 85

[Text] Nicaraguan Vice President Sergio Ramirez said today that the more the United States opposes the Contadora Group's effort the stronger the group will be. Reagan's ultimatum was stillborn and crippled, since time will show that just initiatives are on the side of Nicaragua, Sergio Ramirez said during an unscheduled press conference at the Ruben Dario University campus, where he inaugurated the opening of the school year.

[Begin recording] [Ramirez] The truth is that U.S. plans are becoming increasingly overt. For this reason the role of Contadora is more important than ever. Now more than ever we have trust in the role that the Contadora Group can play for peace in Central America and Nicaragua. It seems paradoxical that the more that the United States opposes peace in Central American and wants to attack Nicaragua the stronger that group becomes, but that's the way it is. We cannot forget that Contadora is a Latin American option. Colombia, and President Betancur especially, have been very positive in working for peace in Central America. We want Colombia to continue playing this role. We believe it should.

[Reporter] Dr Ramirez, President Lusinchi has said that the dialogue would be positive. What can you say about that?

[Ramirez] The problem here is that when you ask a civilized person what he thinks about a dialogue no one will say he is against it. But no one has asked President Lusinchi what he thinks of the ultimatum President Reagan delivered to Nicaragua [words indistinct] I am sure that President Lusinchi, as a democrat whose ideals were forged in the struggle against the dictatorship of Perez Jimenez, will say he is against it.

I believe that President Reagan's proposal was stillborn, crippled. Time will show that just initiatives are on the side of Nicaragua. We believe that in this difficult moment with a U.S. position advocating ultimatums and threats rather than dialogue, the Contadora position will gain strength. And it will gain even more strength when the U.S. President agrees that he must return to Manzanillo to reinitiate bilateral talks with Nicaragua. [end recording]

COMMITTEE FOR PEACE DENOUNCES REAGAN PROPOSAL

PA150255 Managua International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Excerpt] The Nicaraguan Committee for Peace, Conipaz, has made an appeal to the world regarding the false proposal of the U.S. President in his so-called peace proposal for Nicaragua. Conipaz stated that the chief of the White House is using force against a small, poor country, trying to force it to relinquish its sovereignty, independence, and self-determination. The peace committee pointed to the continuation of the war of aggression under interventionist formulas, which violates the principles of international law, justice, and the people's freedom. Finally, the document announces Nicaragua's support for the Manzanillo dialogue; it is Mr Reagan who is opposed to such talks, as he is intent on the destruction of the Sandinist people's revolution.

RADIO, TV VIEW REAGAN'S PEACE PROPOSAL

Proposal 'Fit for Gangster'

PA142120 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1300 GMT 14 Apr 85

["Beyond the News Reports" by Eligio Alvarez Montalban: "Reagan Ready to Play the Benevolent Bandit If We Surrender"]

[Text] Inspired by President Reagan, the U.S. State Department is now attempting to play on Nicaragua the old trick of the benevolent bandit, or better said, of the professional killer who, with his finger on a trigger or with the blade of his knife against his victim's throat, offers to spare his life in exchange for his money, and hisses: Your money or your life. This is clearly the policy that has inspired the Reagan administration's dealings with Nicaragua ever since it assumed power in 1981, in what is a flagrant violation of the most basic rules of international law and disrespecting a country with which it maintains formal and normal diplomatic relations. Thus far, Reagan's plans to overthrow the Sandinist government by force by covertly helping the Somozist mercenaries have failed. That is why the man in the White House is now intent on playing a dirty trick on us, namely, offering us a so-called peace proposal which is ultimately, as many international analysts and observers have pointed out, none other than an ultimatum, if not a call to the unconditional surrender of a democratic and popular regime conquered by the Nicaraguan people on 19 July 1979 and ratified at the polls on 4 November 1984.

The outright rejection of Reagan's wicked proposal by the Sandinist Government, and among others by the Colombian and Mexican Governments, given its absolutely interventionist nature, has prompted Reagan to come up with another, no less dirty trick. He is now urging the Managua government to reconsider its rejection of the peace proposal, offering in exchange to spare its life if it agrees to hold talks and to seek a reconciliation with those who tortured, exploited, and murdered the Nicaraguan people for almost half a century.

In Spanish, or in any other language, including the Yankee English used by Mr Reagan during his long and tiresome speeches, his latest proposal means nothing more than Your money or your life!, a threat befitting all gangsters [preceding word in English], no matter where they come from.

Plan Termed 'Coarse Threat'

PA101732 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 9 Apr 85

[Text] Last week the President of the United States pompously announced a so-called peace proposal for Nicaragua. Putting aside the moral issues tha hinder that country's making any peace proposals, as it is the aggressor country, the truth is that the plan is merely a coarse threat to force Nicaragua to surrender. In essence, it is an attempt to force the legal and legitimate Nicaraguan Government to put aside its arms and negotiate with the counterrevolutionaries, and call for new elections from which, it is supposed, a democratic and of course anticommunist and pro-imperialist government will emerge. In exchange, Reagan offers a 60-day truce and promises to use the funds that Congress is denying him to feed, dress, and provide medical care for the counterrevolutionaries.

Because they are so absurd, Reagan's proposals could even be considered comical, but reality forces us to take anything that affects our fatherland seriously. Reagan is desperate. He knows that this request for $14 million for the contras has no possibility of being approved by Congress, and that this will mean a rejection of his interventionist policies. Therefore, to prevent a rejection by Congress, Reagan seems willing to give up, for 12 months, his attack on Nicaragua in exchange for our government's surrendering its sovereignty over our fatherland.

Reagan knows that Nicaragua will never accept his proposals or surrender to his threats, so he is trying to confuse the U.S. and international public opinions, and to hinder the Contadora Group's efforts.

Our government and international public opinion have already responded by soundly rejecting Reagan's proposals. Now it is up to the Central American and Contadora Group countries to take over the search for peace for our region, with historical responsibility. They will have the opportunity this week in Panama.

PLI LEADER ON REJECTION OF REAGAN PROPOSAL

PA132310 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 11 Apr 85 pp 1, 16

[Text] Dr Virgilio Godoy Reyes, president of the Independent Liberal Party [PLI], has told LA PRENSA that the Nicaraguan Government's rejection of U.S. President Ronald Reagan's proposal presented late last week will cause serious problems among the Contadora Group countries to the point that it will create a new crisis which will be very difficult to overcome. Godoy stated that at the forthcoming meeting of the Contadora Group plenipotentiary delegates, to be held on 11 and 12 April in Panama, they will not be able to overcome the obstacles resulting from the Sandinist government's reaction.

This will probably cause the Contadora Group to consider returning discussion of the Central American situation to the OAS, inasmuch as the efforts of the presidents of the countries seeking peace are now in question. The presidents are now involved in this new Yankee proposal.

The Mexican president's stand, Godoy added, is not yet entirely clear because: 1. He seems to admit there are important elements in the proposal; and 2. He hints that there are certain agreements on certain parts of the proposal. Dr Godoy added that since President De la Madrid has supported the Nicaragua Government and the latter has rejected the new U.S. proposal, both governments are placed in a very difficult situation which could worsen tensions and increase violence, specifically in the case of Nicaragua. It is surprising, the PLI politician said, that the Nicaraguan Government has not acted more cautiously in view of the new developments, especially with regard to the Sandinist government's insistence on resuming the Manzanillo talks or the new meeting of the Contadora Group in Panama. In addition, Godoy said, there is evidently an urgent need, at least in Nicaragua, for a cease-fire that will lead to negotiations for restoring peace.

Concerning the 60-day deadline given by President Reagan in his proposal, Godoy said that it is flexible because it contemplates the possibility of an extension should the talks progress. "To this effect, nothing is easy," Godoy added. It is no secret that some government party officials have admitted unofficially the possibility of negotiating legislative elections in a short time, and it is also known that measures have been taken in the national legislature to put into practice the summit agreements [acuerdos de la cumbre], which include freedom of press.

Within the domestic political sphere, there are some sectors that insisted, Godoy said, that the proposal should have been handled more carefully in order to allow negotiations that, while safeguarding our national sovereignty and taking into consideration the Nicaraguan people's interests, could have led to an atmosphere suitable for a national solution that could guarantee Nicaraguans' freedom and well-being.

The case of President Belisario Betancur, Dr Godoy added, is somewhat awkward in this new situation because, after having sponsored conversations between a Miskito sector and the Sandinist government and having extensively toured the area trying to bring in new elements for a new total negotiation, he has been disavowed by the openly negative reaction of the Nicaraguan Government. This is something that affects in more than one way the stands of the Venezuelan and Panamanian presidents who, judging from international news reports, seem to have endorsed the Colombian president's efforts.

However, Godoy added, we Nicaraguans must maintain our trust that a more urgent political solution and a national dialogue, both frank and effective, remain the best opportunity we have to solve our problems and live in peace. Otherwise, Dr Godoy concluded, a continued stubbornness can entail only more sacrifice and destruction for all of Nicaragua, and perhaps after all that we would still have to head to the negotiating table.

LA PRENSA CALLS FOR DISCUSSION OF REAGAN PLAN

PA150328 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 11 Apr 85 p 2

[Editorial: "Imposed Silence Does Not Create Peace"; capitalized passage published in boldface]

[Text] Presidents of many countries friendly to Nicaragua, sympathetic newspapers such as THE NEW YORK TIMES and THE WASHINGTON POST, and common sense itself says that in response to a peace proposal, in response to an alternative that could mean life instead of death for thousands of Nicaraguans and peace and progress instead of destruction for our unfortunate country, the least that can be expected and desired is a calm and serious study, an ample and responsible consultation with the people, and a national dialogue.

Our government, instead of reacting sensibly and patriotically, has reacted in the totalitarian manner of HIDING. Reagan's peace proposal, its presentation, commentaries for and against, and the reactions from the other countries of the world were hidden by press CENSORSHIP. The people must not be informed. Publishing anything on this topic is prohibited! We consider this authoritarian and absolutist reaction immoral, and "because we cannot hide from the people any information of such significance," we were forced to close down our installations on Monday and Wednesday in protest. We do not know or understand what kind of sovereignty supports the Marxist-Leninist philosophy.

Sovereignty is not an ideological whim. Exerting our fullest sovereignty, we must consult with the people about what they think of the proposal. Exerting our fullest sovereignty, we can and must sit down to a roundtable including the armed, civilian, and official sectors of Nicaragua in order to achieve peace. Peace depends on these three factors: the official sector, the independent and civic sector that struggles for democracy and peace within Nicaragua, and the armed sector that has chosen the path of civil war. The dialogue Reagan now proposes -- which is supported by all sensible persons in Europe and America, "which is the only dialogue that can seal peace," which we have requested and applauded for El Salvador and Colombia and for all countries facing conflicts," [quotation mark as received] -- has been requested and supported by the moral institution that is the most respected and prestigious in Nicaragua: the Catholic Church. Why is it that the Nicaraguan Government, instead of agreeing with this important opinion, adopts a solitary and capricious attitude and refused to take one step toward coexistence? If there is a time when history demands democracy, it is now. How, democratically, should we respond to Reagan? Peace is at stake, and in risking peace the people are all affected by this toying with their future. The families, mothers, and youths of Nicaragua are the ones who will experience the result of the proposed alternative. Let this be discussed; let the people be heard; let the mothers and fathers be heard; let counterproposals be made; let points be accepted and others rejected. Let democracy work...it is absurd to be silent, to force others into silence, to impose silence in the name of power. This is not a country of slaves.

COMMENTARY SEES DIFFICULTIES FOR CONTADORA MEETING

PA121936 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 12 Apr 85

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The meeting of plenipotentiaries of the Contadora Group and Central American countries opened today under less than optimistic conditions. Panamanian Foreign Minister Fernando Cardoze, who opened the meeting, described the Contadora Group's situation and said that it is facing a difficult and crucial time, and that for this reason it is essential to achieve [words indistinct].

Nicaragua's position in the Contadora Group has been and continues to be very responsible. Our country's conduct demonstrates a constant willingness to make commitments that will guarantee peace in the region. Contadora's [word indistinct] throughout its 2 years of existence, found in Nicaragua the strongest and warmest support. Unfortunately, from the beginning the United States set out to destroy the Contadora process. Although the United States did not achieve this objective, it did hamper the Contadora Group's meetings, and it actions were strengthenend by the unconditional support of its Central American allies. The Reagan administration is now trying to control the Contadora Group and make it a useless organization. To do this it has launched an offensive that has as its spearhead the Reagan plan for Nicaragua, which was made public on 4 March [as heard].

The United States is pressuring all the Latin American governments by blackmailing them with the foreign debt in order to obtain their total support for his plan. The U.S. Government knows that Nicaragua will not accept any interference in its internal affairs. Thus, the Reagan objective is to somehow put the Latin American countries in confrontation with Nicaragua, thus isolating Nicaragua. Sometimes we think that Foreign Minister Cardoze is right. The Contadora Group's situation is crucial and difficult because it is not only peace in Central America that is at stake, but the sovereign dignity of all of Latin America.

ENVOY IN COSTA RICA ON THREATS AGAINST EMBASSY

PA111855 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Apr 85

[Text] Leonor Arguello, Nicaraguan representative in San Jose, reported that Costa Rican security organizations have not yet reacted to an attack suffered by the Nicaraguan Embassy in that country. She also said that there are still threats against embassy personnel. Dr Leonor Arguello, our diplomatic representative in that country, told this newscast that the Costa Rican Foreign Ministry has not yet replied to a protest note from the Nicaraguan Embassy in Costa Rica on an attack that took place last Tuesday. Ambassador Arguello denounced the fact that recently they have received all kinds of threats; even personnel working in the Nicaraguan Embassy which is located in the California neighborhood of San Jose, have received threats. Now listen to Ambassador Leonor Arguello's statements regarding this via telephone:

[Begin recording] [Arguello] As you know, here in Costa Rica we are subjected to threats from all sides. I can almost assure you that local newspapers fuel those threats; most of them are constantly launching accusations against us and are thereby creating animosity among Costa Ricans toward Nicaraguans. We, as Nicaraguan representatives in this country, are therefore the focus of constant threats. However, as you know, we revolutionaries are not disturbed or frightened by the noise of [word indistinct], as we would say in my homeland. However, threats continue. In fact, today we were told that harassment will continue.

[Reporter] Dr Arguello, what kind of threats have you received?

[Arguello] Forgive me, but I cannot reveal that. However, they involve attacks against us as well as attacks on Nicaraguan Government installations and people in this country. We are maintaining a wait-and-see attitude. We are all working and minding our own business without worrying about this too much because it is not worth it. We must continue to move ahead.

[Reporter] What about the reaction in Costa Rica to Ronald Reagan's peace proposal and Nicaragua's firm stand to resume the Manzanillo talks?

[Arguello] Well, I will clearly tell you that the local press and television media have kept a very special...[rephrases] I would say it has maintained a prudent silence regarding this. It was not until yesterday when Harry Shlaudeman, the personal envoy of President Reagan, visited the country. He was here for several hours. During a statement via radio and television, Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez said Costa Rica viewed President Reagan's peace proposal favorably because if the Salvadoran Government is expected to hold talks with Salvadoran rebels, why not expect the same from the Nicaraguans. Newspapers and television stations here have kept a low profile on this. This may be due to the fact that Mr Shlaudeman had not arrived. Maybe the media ill report further on the subject tomorrow. However, thus far not much as been said. [end recording]

REPORTAGE ON ECUADOR'S FEBRES CORDERO VISIT

Travels to Cienfuegos

FL151753 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Ecuadoran President Leon Febres Cordero Ribadeneyra arrived in Cienfuegos today, accompanied by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers. They were received by Humberto Miguel Fernandez, member of the Central Committee and first secretary of the party provincial committee in Cienfuegos, at Jaime Gonzalez Airport.

As the group made its way through the streets, thousands of Cienfuegos residents welcomed its members and expressed friendship with the Ecuadoran people. The distinguished visitors will tour the regional economic centers.

Hosts Reception for Castro

FL161226 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] Ecuadoran President Leon Febres Cordero has given a reception in honor of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro. Febres Cordero is concluding a visit to our country. During the reception, a document was signed which establishes amendments to the reciprocal credit agreement between the Central Banks of Cuba and Ecuador.

The document was signed by Carlos Julio Immanuel, general manager of the Central Bank of Ecuador, and Jose Vaz, vice president of the National Bank of Cuba. This agreement will facilitate the exchange of goods between the two countries by establishing that payments be made in agreement dollars [dolares de convenio] having the same value as U.S. dollars. Formerly, payments were made only in Canadian dollars but with the modifications to the agreement, pounds sterling, German marks, and Swiss francs will be used.

USSR TO TRAIN YOUTHS IN PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION

FL111150 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 11 Apr 85

[Text] One hundred youths who have completed military training or belong to the Youth Labor Army will soon leave for the USSR to be trained in the construction of oil pipelines. These youths will be in charge of building a 500-km oil pipeline in Cuba.

It has also been reported that construction of the first oil pipeline will begin in 1986 and will be completed in 1990 with a length of 500 km.

RISQUET RECEIVES POLISARIO FRONT DELEGATION

FL112222 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 11 Apr 85

[Text] Jorge Risquet Valdes, member of the Politburo and the Central Committee Secretariat, today received (Hashir Mustapha al-Sayyid), member of the Executive Committee of the Polisario Front. The Western Sahara leader is leading an official delegation of that organization which was invited by the Communist Party of Cuba.

'OUR AMERICA' ON ESCALATION OF VIOLENCE IN CHILE

PA111948 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 9 Apr 85

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] While smoke poured out of La Moneda Palace and shots were ringing out in the streets of Santiago, Chile; while the Carabinero hordes were committing abuses and staging massive detentions, filling the national stadium with innocent persons -- many of whom never left the place alive -- General Augusto Pinochet was taking office. Jubilantly drunk with the total support of the United States for his crimes, he announced that the military had taken power to save the country from economic, political, and social chaos.

After murdering approximately 30,000 persons, the Chilean military men began what they described as a rescue mission. With the counseling of economists of the Chicago School, they began to apply a system that was translated into hunger for the working class, while at the same time, they clamped down with a heavy hand on any protest. In the political field they relentlessly persecuted the opposition.

Twelve years after they began their task, it has become increasintly evident that the economic plan which they flaunted has failed. The Chilean military have also lost political control of the country. The opposition to the regime is becoming more active, as has been demonstrated by the protest demonstrations demanding the repeal of all the repressive laws and a return to democracy.

Torture, imprisonment, and crimes have not been able to silence the armed opposition because both the Revolutionary Movement of the Left and the commands of the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front have claimed credit for several actions that imply excellent organization and the firm purpose of fighting relentlessly. Recently the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front released a communique claiming credit for several actions staged in support of the protest demonstrations and a return of democracy in Chile. It noted that all the popular actions, including the attacks, were staged despite the fact that the cities are occupied by the military and under a strict curfew.

The opposition to the dictatorship has become stronger in view of the macabre escalation of repression in the past few days, during which government agents kidnapped and assassinated several leaders of the national teachers assocation. Manuel Guerrero Cevallos, regional president of the Chilean Teachers Union, sociologist Manuel Parada, and Santiago Natino, a draftsman, were beheaded [as heard] on the outskirts of Santiago. This demonstrated the growing ferocity and bloodthirsty attitude of those who, with the support of the United States, overthrew the government of popular unity in 1973 and assassinated constitutional President Salvador Allende.

The recent incidents have not gone unnoticed by the U.S. Government, which with manifest concern, now notes that the situation in Chile may take a sudden turn and veer toward a path that is contrary to the will of Washington. It is evident that the United States fears that the growing opposition to Pinochet, which is firm despite the new escalation of repression, may provoke the outbreak of a violent, social upheaval in that South American nation.

OFFICIAL REPORTS ON HAVANA'S WATER SHORTAGE

FL122328 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 12 Apr 85

[Text] Alfredo Alvarez, director of City of Havana Province's waterworks, has reported on measures taken to alleviate the current water shortage in the capital. He explained that precipitation in 1984 and so far in 1985 only amounts to 61 percent of the normal amount for the period. This is the cause of current problems.

REQUEST FOR DEBT RENEGOTIATION SUBMITTED

FL101438 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 30 Mar 85 pp 1, 12

[By Jose Romero]

[Excerpts] This week in Paris, the Central Bank governor submitted to the so-called Paris Club the necessary support documentation requesting the renegotiation of the Dominican Republic's foreign debt to friendly governments, which amounts to $815 million.

The club renegotiates debts between governments. In the case of the Dominican Republic, its main creditors are the United States, Spain, Japan, and Germany, in that order.

The commitments with the Paris Club represent approximately 25 percent of the total $2.7 billion Dominican foreign debt.

The total bilateral debt is not included in that amount, inasmuch as there is an additional debt of $428 million, mainly $327 million owed to Venezuela and $92 million to Mexico, which is considered separately.

The Dominican documents propose a total of eight alternatives in a package which includes the renegotiation of the commercial debt to private banks.

The country proposes to the Paris Club that it be allowed to renegotiate 90 percent of its outstanding and due payments, including those of 1985 (capital plus interests), with a 10-year term, including a 3-year grace period.

The country has accumulated interest with the Paris Club since 1983. With a 10-year term and 3-year grace period, the interest rate would be 8 percent.

This year the country should pay the Paris Club $259 million, including outstanding payments and interests. If the renegotiation is approved, the Dominican Republic would only pay $116 million.

Among the documents it has submitted there is a protection through 1990 of the debt's total services as well as the balance of payment, prepared by specialist of the World Bank at the request of the foreign countries' banks and agents, which will participate in the renegotiation by the Paris Club.

PRD SECRETARY GENERAL COMMENTS ON PARTY UNITY

FL101330 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 3 Apr 85 pp 1, 10

[Excerpt] Dominican Revolutionary Party [PRD] Secretary General Winston Arnaud yesterday asserted that there is no animosity between Jacobo Majutla and Dr Jose Francisco Pena Gomez. The PRD leader also said no one will be able to divide the party.

He admitted that in his party there are leaders with electoral aspirations but that will not go any further and, in the end, unity will prevail, he said.

The PRD is known for allowing its leaders to aspire to electoral posts without being harassed, as happens in other parties, the secretary general of the White Party said.

CARICOM MINISTERS SET TRADE PROPOSAL DEADLINES

FL141805 Bridgetown CANA in English 2149 GMT 13 Apr 85

[By Edwin Ali]

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, April 13, CANA -- Caribbean Common Market (Caricom) countries have agreed to new deadlines for the implementation of a package of proposals for the revival of sagging trade among the 12 member states, Caricom Secretary General Roderick Rainford announced here today. A new target date of June 1, 1985 has been agreed, except for the new governments in Belize and St Vincent and the Grenadines, which have an extra three months, Rainford said at the end of the sometimes heated meeting of the Caricom Council of Ministers.

Caricom heads of government last July agreed that by January 1, 1985 they would remove protectionist policies, raise tariffs on a specified list of foreign goods to protect similar products made in the Common Market, and in the case of the Windward and Leeward Islands, increase from 20 to 30 per cent the value added requirement for their manufacturers to qualify for duty free status under the Caricom regime. But nine months after there has been little action on the issue, with intra-regional trading still in the doldrums and related economic activity at a low ebb, at the expense of hundreds of jobs in the Caricom manufacturing sector. The 1983 downturn in trading among Common Market states amounted to EC 200 million dollars (one EC dollar: 37 cents) and preliminary indications are the decline continued into 1985. Rainford said the council -- second only to the heads of government summit in the Caricom decision-making hierarchy -- had heard various reasons from member states for their failure to meet the last dealines.

The meeting, which ended in the early hours of today, also examined the question of reliability or product supplies in Caricom and sought definitive assurances about the capacity within the region to supply, on time and in terms of the requried specifications, the Jamaican economist added.

Rainford said the current problems affecting the movement were certainly grave and will take some time to resolve. On moves to restore the collapsed Caricom Multilateral Clearing Facility (CMCF), the credit scheme that supported trading in the common market, Rainford said the council did not deal with the matter in any great substance, but we are continuing our approach to reactivate it, as everyone recognises the tremendous importance to have a mechanism for clearing payments. Efforts are continuing to get the CMCF operative again or to get a CMCF type of mechanism in operation, but in the interim, trade is continuing on a bilateral basis, he added.

Outstanding issues to be resolved in revising the protocol related to trade in primary agricultural products are to be referred to a meeting of agriculture ministers scheduled for next month, the secretary general said. The ministers also considered the report of the investigative commission on the garment industry, and agreed to set up a textile and garment advisory committee.

The major recommendation of this report concerned such possible steps to be taken to develop appropriate protective machinery in the region for the garment sector, secondly the mobilization of technical assistance to improve operations by garment manufacturers, and thirdly, programmes to promote marketing of garments within and outside the region, Rainford said. It was also recommended that there should be established a textile and garment advisory committee in the region, and the council accepted that recommendation and also agreed that an important part of the terms of reference for that committee will be the matter of developing proposals for the implementation of appropriate protective regimes, he said. The council meeting also approved a (EC) 10 million dollar budget for the secretariat.

Said Rainford: Generally I think this session was perhaps typical of the other Caricom sessions, as they were marked by frankness, candour, and even some heat, the kind of heat I believe that helped to throw light, Rainford said of the conference. There were some times, as one would expect in these matters that are fundamental, sharply conflicting or contrasting points of view, but in the end, on most of the issues we were able to come around with a jointly agreed point of view for follow up work.

GRENADA

BLAIZE FAVORS OUT-OF-COURT SETTLEMENT WITH CUBA

FL152200 Bridgetown CANA in English 2218 GMT 13 Apr 85

[Text] St George's, Grenada, April 13, CANA -- The Grenada Government appears divided over how to resolve an impasse with Cuba, which is demanding the return of construction equipment Havana had sent here to help the former People's Revolutionary Government [PRG] build the Point Salines International Airport, high-level sources said. The sources, who declined to be identified, said Prime Minister Herbert Blaize and Foreign Minister Ben Jones, both lawyers, go along with Attorney-General Carlyle Paynes' view that Grenada should compensate Cuba for the trucks, tractors, and other equipment rather than fight the matter in court. But Labour Minister Dr Francis Alexis and Health Minister Danny Williams, also lawyers, support the position of the former interim government that the equipment belongs to Grenada under the agreements that brought them here, and favour taking the issue to court.

The Havana government, through Jamaican lawyer Dudley Thompson, has filed a writ in the local courts asking for the return of the equipment of six million dollars (U.S.) compensation. Grenada under the PRG was Cuba's closest Eastern Caribbean ally, but its October 1983 ouster amid factional infighting and a subsequent U.S.-led intervention brought an end to the relationship. After the landing of the American and Caribbean soldiers to restore order, Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon immediately downgraded ties with Havana and expelled all Cuban personnel, except one diplomat who has since left. The airport, built with massive Cuban aid, opened to commercial traffic last October. The United States and Canada provided 25 million dollars (U.S.) to complete the project after the departure of the Cubans. The non-political interim government, which ruled for one year until the incumbent administration took office in general elections last December, said that according to the documents related to the presence of the equipment here, Grenada had paid for some and other were donated as gifts. Hence, it contended the equipment was Grenadian property. The suit, filed by Cuba, also seeks damages for loss of use of the machines.

NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

GOVERNMENT TO TAKE MEASURES TO REDUCE DEFICIT

FL111444 Hilversum International Service in English 1030 GMT 11 Apr 85

[Text] The Government of the Dutch Antilles is taking measures to reduce a sharply climbing budget deficit. There will be a 15-percent cutback in all items in this year's budget estimates. The coming 3 years, salaries of civil servants and those of government-related workers will not be adjusted for inflation. Holiday pay and Christmas bonuses would be scrapped. The Dutch Antilles Government also hopes to generate more income by increasing taxes on motor fuel and tobacco products, among other things. And its financial arrangements with the Martin Island area will be changed. In future, Martin will no longer get a contribution to cover the budget deficit but will have to contribute to the Antilles treasury. The Government of the Dutch Antilles says the possibility of more price and tariff measures cannot be ruled out.

BURNHAM HOLDS TALKS WITH YUGOSLAV PRESIDENT

FL152326 Bridgetown CANA in English 2058 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Belgrade, April 15, CANA-REUTER -- Guyanese President Forbes Burnham discussed bilateral ties and major international issues with Yugoslav President Veselin Djuranovic in Belgrade today, officials close to the two sides said.

Burnham, accompanied by his wife Viola, Foreign Minister Rashleigh Jackson, and Health Minister Richard Van West-Charles, arrived in Yugoslavia yesterday for a six-day visit. He and Djuranovic paid particular attention to ways to improve bilateral trade and economic cooperation which was lagging behind the good political relations between the two friendly non-aligned countries, the officials said.

The two presidents also reviewed the international political and economic situation, which they said was burdened by conflicts, tension between the superpowers, and the worsening position of developing countries, the officials said. They called for increased efforts by the Non-aligned Movement aimed at solving international conflicts and economic problems, they added.

Jackson had separate talks with Yugoslav Foreign Minister Raif Dizdarevic which centered on the activities of non-aligned countries, the officials said.

OPPOSITION LEADER TO ADDRESS LABOR UNION CONGRESS

FL160046 Bridgetown CANA in English 1813 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, April 14, CANA -- Guyana's Marxist parliamentary opposition leader, Dr Cheddi Jagan, will speak on recent political developments here tomorrow when he addresses the 11th congress of the Guyana Agricultural and General Workers Union (GAWU), which is affiliated to Jagan's People's Progressive Party (PPP).
A GAWU spokesman said Jagan, who is honorary president of the union, is expected to touch on the invitation by the ruling People's National Congress (PNC) for cooperation talks with the PPP.

The congress was opened last evening by Dr George Belle, the leader of the leftist Workers Party of Barbados (WPB) and a lecturer in government at the Barbados campus of the University of the West Indies (UWI). Delegations from Cuba, Venezuela, the All Trinidad and Tobago Sugar and General Workers Union, and the small Barbados Industrial and General Workers Union (BIGWU) are attending the meeting.

Messages were received from fraternal unions in Algeria, Angola, Canada, China, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Jamaica, Kenya, Lebanon, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Portugal, Suriname, St Vincent, the Soviet Union, the United States, the United Kingdom, as well as the World Federation of Trade Unions, the GAWU spokesman said.

The theme of the congress is toward unity, democracy, and economic emancipation.

PANAMA

GENERAL NORIEGA DISCUSSES CENTRAL AMERICAN TOUR

PA142153 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Telephone interview with General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the National Defense Forces, by Orlando Kevers; on 13 April -- recorded]

[Text] [Noriega] We went to Central America at the invitation of the Guatemalan Government and the mayor of Guatemala City to inaugurate Panama Square. Our agenda also included a visit to the site of the maneuvers taking place in Honduras. General Walter Lopez Reyes invited us. We were there on a strictly military mission.

[Kevers] General, you also met -- according to news agency reports -- with Nicaraguan President Ortega at the airport in Managua. Sir, could you tell us about that meeting?

[Noriega] On our way back to Panama and after the completion of the maneuvers in Honduras -- and allow me to add that on the way back, and en route to Guatemala, we made stopovers in San Salvador, where we met with local military leaders -- we made a stopover in Nicaragua, where Commander Humberto Ortega, who is in charge of military affairs there, met with us. Panama's military leaders also met with Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega. We listened to his ideas about Nicaragua and we explained to him the Republic of Panama's policy on defense and security with regard to Central America. We felt that the meeting was a fortunate one, necessary for the security of Central America, particularly as it demonstrated Panama's capacity to respond to the Contadora Group's plan. We had discussed in full our travel plans with President Nicolas Ardito Barletta, with whom we coordinated all manifestations of our work. What other question do you have, Kevers?

[Kevers] General, how do you feel about the future of Contadora and peace in Central America?

[Noriega] Let me be honest. Just as I said the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty and the Central American Defense Council are outdated, I must say that Contadora must be updated, made realistic and cognizant of the true essence of the Central American problem. I just came back from there. I saw towns there, I was at the border, I spoke with people who are friends and enemies in this problem, as a member of the Defense Forces. I was not alone. I was with military officers, lieutenants. I am not boasting, simply saying what I did.

VENEZUELA

COLOMBIAN GUERRILLA THREAT PROMPTS MILITARY ACTION

PA111717 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1454 GMT 11 Apr 85

[Text] Caracas, 11 Apr (EFE) -- It was reported today in Caracas that the Venezuelan military and police authorities have declared a state of emergency in the Colombia border region in view of the guerrillas announcement of surprise attacks.

According to reports, the State of Tachira and the districts of Paz, in Apure State, and Ezequiel Zamora, in Barinas State, in the southwestern protion of the border with Colombia, have been effectively taken over by the military and police authorities. It was reported that the Army and the National Guard made the guerrillas of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia flee. According to the reports, the emergency operation is being carried out in close cooperation with the Colombian Army in order to fight the guerrillas from that country who periodically make incursions into Venezuelan territory and kidnap local cattlemen.